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TAMILARASU 1970-2020
GOLDEN JUBILEE

Tamil Nadu is a pioneering State

-Hon'ble Chief Minister

AUGUST 15: INDEPENDENCE DAY

'Make India a Super Power, Tamil Nadu the premier State'

Message of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Independence Day
(English Translation)

On this golden day when India got Independence from the British, I happily convey to all my countrymen my hearty Independence Day good wishes.

Independence Day shines as a good day to glorify the great sacrifices of thousands of freedom fighters who fought for the freedom of our Motherland from the British choosing the path of non-violence shown by the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi.

The Government of Tamil Nadu that functions on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has raised the monthly pension given to freedom fighters by way of commending and honouring them, from Rs.15,000 to Rs.16,000 and the family pension to their heirs from Rs.7,500 to Rs. 8,000. Many schemes like free bus pass are implemented for freedom fighters in an effective way. Moreover, Memorials, Manimandapams, Statues and Memorial Pillars have been erected for freedom fighters by way of honouring them and enlightening the future generations about their sacrifices. They are also honoured through Government celebrations on their birth anniversaries.

At this point of time when the entire world is fighting against the Corona Virus pandemic, it is due to Tamil Nadu Government's excellent Corona Virus preventive actions that the State came foremost in conducting tests in the whole country; the percentage of recovery is high and the mortality very low, not only in comparison to other States in India, but globally also.

At this critical time too when lockdown has been enforced for preventing the virus from spreading, Hon'ble Amma's Government, with the noble aim of safeguarding the people of Tamil Nadu from any kind of harm, has implemented many schemes with focus and is protecting them. There is no doubt that Tamil Nadu, with the full Co-operation of the people, will come out wholly from the effects of the Corona Virus pandemic and march forward victoriously.

On this happy day, I request the people to unite and toil for making the country a super power by developing it in all fields and to make Tamil Nadu the premier State in India. I once again extend my hearty Independence Day good wishes to all. ■

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With the welfare of the people of Tamil Nadu as my sole aim, I will keep on working day and night for you.

Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami
- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

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First Wrapper

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** hoisted the National Flag and paid respects on the ramparts of Fort St. George, Secretariat on the occasion of the 74th Independence Day on 15.08.2020.

Braving impediments, Tamil Nadu Government 'notching triumphs in diverse fields and implementing welfare schemes for the people'

Independence Day speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami - 15.08.2020 *(English Translation)*

My obeisance to Goddess Hon'ble Amma.

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O. Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Ministers, Judges of Madras High Court, Special Representative of Tamil Nadu Government, Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly, former Ministers, Chief Secretary to Government Thiru. K. Shanmugam, top Officers of Tamil Nadu Government, Director General of Police Thiru. J.K. Tripathy, top Officers of Police Department, top Officers

of Army, Air Force, Navy, Coast Guard and Central Reserve Police Force, Hon'ble freedom fighters who fought for the country staking their lives as insignificant, Board Presidents, selfless doctors working for the prevention of Corona Virus infection and treating patients, nurses, health workers, conservancy staff, Government Servants of the Departments of Police, Local Administration, Revenue, Fire Services, Co-operation, Civil Supplies and other Departments, former Members of Parliament and Members of Legislative Assembly, Respected elders, ladies, youth, students, press and media friends - I extend my affectionate greetings and happy Independence Day good wishes to all of you.

I offer my Independence Day good wishes to VIPs, students and the general public, who are unable to participate in this function on medical advice due to this dire virus pandemic that threatens the world.

I am proud to hoist, for the fourth time, our National flag on the ramparts of this historic St. George Fort.

Our National flag that brilliantly flutters in the gentle breeze of the Bay of Bengal, brings before our eyes the history of many 'thyaga chemmals' who had sacrificed their dear lives for India's freedom.

The Father of our Nation Gandhi Adigal, got country's independence through 'satyagraha', realizing that 'ahimsa' (non-violence) is imbibed in every Indian's consciousness and united the country on the path of 'ahimsa' for breaking the shackles of slavery. Many freedom fighters of our State, imbued with self-sacrifice, chose the same path and dedicated their lives to breaking the fetters of slavery and freeing the country, without minding their personal interests. This is the auspicious day to remember their sacrifices. Countless leaders, poets and artists like Maaveeran Poolithevan, Veerapandiya Kattabomman, Veeramangai Velunachiyar, Marudhu Brothers, Maaveeran Dheeran Chinnamalai, Veeran Vellayathevan, Veeran Azhagu Muthukone, Thalapathy Ondi Veeran, Chekkizhutha Chemmal V.O.Chidambaranar, Kodikatha Tiruppur Kumaran, Veerathai Kuyili, Virupachi Gopal Naicker, Pasumpon

Muthuramalinga Thevar, Thiyagi Srinivasa Rao, Omandur Ramasamy Reddiar, Thiyagi Viswanatha Das, Kanniyathendral Quaid-e-Milleth, Kandavarayan, Chandavarayan, Mayuram Nagappa Padayatchi, Sardar Adhikesavalu Naicker, Rebel Muthuramalinga Sethupathi, Va.Ve.Subramania Iyer, Jaihind Shenbagaraman, Veeran Sundaralingam, Veeramurasu Subramania Siva, Mahakavi Bharathiyar, Thanthai Periyar, Mootharignar Rajaji, Dheerar Satyamurthy, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, Periyavar Bhakthavatchalam, Thiyaga Seelar Kakkan, Poduvudamai Veerar Pa. Jeevanadam, Namakkal Kavignar Ramalingam Pillai, Veera Vanchinathan and Thillaiyadi Valliammai, besides making many sacrifices for India's freedom, spread the spirit of independence and still remain our country's symbols.

Mahakavi Bharathiyar has said in one of his poem: 'Unity brings life; lack of unity brings woe' (Ondrupattal undu vaazhvu; nammil otrumai neengidil anaivarkkum thaazhvu). We proved the spirit of these lines recently by standing behind our army firmly with the feeling, "We are Indians" when our neighbouring country tried to commit aggression on our border. I firmly declare that we will all be supportive of all the actions taken by the Central Government for strengthening the country's security.

"Getting Independence can even be easy; to safeguard it, is more difficult; safeguarding it, too, can be easy; to make the benefit of Independence reach all, is difficult", said Perarignar Anna.

Following the path of Perarignar Anna, Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R. and Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, Hon'ble Amma's Government, headed by me, has designed many schemes, on the principles of "Peace, Prosperity, Progress", that devolves the benefits of Independence to all and implemented them. This brought about un-measurable development in all sectors to make Tamil Nadu a model State.

This year, the Corona Virus has turned the entire world topsy-turvy. Your welfare Government has adopted the correct procedures to retrieve the Tamil Nadu people from this virus infection, acted honestly and truthfully and is taking many steps on a war footing continuously. In particular, the number of persons tested per day and the total number of persons tested so far are high only in Tamil Nadu. We have thus saved invaluable human lives. That is why the number of persons who have recovered and returned home is high and the mortality rate very low in Tamil Nadu.

I know people of Tamil Nadu have accepted my kind request - "Stay away, Stay awake and Stay at home" - and are co-operating.

Even while enforcing lockdown, the Government has permitted agricultural works and goods transportation and thus averted scarcity of essential commodities.

- Creating awareness among people, we are ensuring the wearing of face mask at public places, observing social distancing and washing hands in a proper way.
- We have sent back 4,18,903 migrant workers safely to their native States

from our State. Also, we have safely brought 64,661 overseas Tamils till 12.08.2020 through the 'Vande Bharat' and 'Samudra Setu' Mission initiatives to Tamil Nadu.

- The Tamil Nadu Government is distributing at no cost reusable mask to people in Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, Town Panchayats and Rural Panchayats.
- Through continuous door to door visits throughout Tamil Nadu, persons with symptoms of fever and virus infection are identified and follow up action like RTPCR test, quarantining and treatment are undertaken.
- At present, 1,29,000 beds are kept ready at the State level (for receiving Corona patients for treatment). Special attention is given to increase this number and also the number of beds with oxygen facility.
- To increase the number of health care workers, about 1800 doctors, 7000 nurses and other health-connected workers have been freshly recruited.
- Modern life-saving drugs are procured and distributed to Government hospitals. Medicines, laboratory equipments, N95 face masks, protective gears, CT scan, X-ray equipment, 'kabasura kudineer', zinc and vitamin tablets are procured and distributed to hospitals and field workers to the extent needed. Enough stocks have been kept. At present, treatment under the Siddha system of medicine also provided in an excellent way.
- Till now, Hon'ble Amma's Government has spent, out of its own financial resources, Rs.6,650 crore for the prevention of COVID-19 infection and towards relief works.
- To ensure food security during the lockdown period, Tamil Nadu was the only State to have distributed at no cost ration commodities like rice, sugar, cooking oil and pulses to 2.01 crore family card holders comprising the poor, those engaged in small vocations and petty traders for the months of April, May, June and July. Also, the distribution of a cash relief of Rs.1,000 was done by Tamil Nadu.
- A total of 35.65 lakh workers - 17 types of unorganized workers including construction workers and manual labourers, members of 14 types of welfare boards including folk artists and cine workers, matchbox unit workers – were given cash relief of Rs.2,000 each; 13.35 lakh differently abled persons are being given Rs.1,000 each as relief.
- During the lockdown period, Amma Unavagam, special camps and community meal centres functioned like 'Akshaya Patra' to remove the hunger of migrant workers from other States, aged persons, differently abled

persons and destitutes and every day about 8 lakh persons were given tasty, healthy, hot food at no cost.

- A Corona Special Financial Assistance Scheme is being implemented with a fund of Rs.300 crore under the Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project for developing rural industries and to improve the income of workers to benefit about 1.40 lakh persons.
- In the interest of the general public, treatment for Corona Virus infection has also been included in the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme. Through this, the expenditure for the treatment of the poor and marginalized people will be borne by the Government. This concession has been extended to Government servants and pensioners.
- On behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu, I convey my heart-felt gratitude and appreciation to doctors, nurses, health workers, conservancy staff, Government servants in the Departments of Local Administration, Revenue, Police, Fire Services, Co-operation, Civil Supplies and other Departments who are selflessly and tirelessly engaged in field work in this critical period. I am happy to say that Hon'ble Amma's Government has invited them here and is to present awards to them.

"The annals of history will emblazon our victory; which army will win if this army does not? " – go the lines of a song. In tune with the sentiments of these lines, I firmly say that Hon'ble Amma's Government, with the co-operation of the people, will fight and win the war against the Corona Virus infection just as we triumphed in the struggle for Independence.

To realize in a major way the dream of rural and economically backward students of Tamil Nadu to become doctors, the Central

Government's permission was obtained in a short time to locate new medical colleges in the 11 Districts of Ramanathapuram, Virudhunagar, Dindigul, the Nilgiris, Ariyalur, Nagapattinam, Kallakurichi, Thiruvallur, Tiruppur, Namakkal and Krishnagiri and foundation stones have been laid for all of them.

Hon'ble Amma's Government opposes NEET examination at the policy level. In the last 3 years, the admission of poor students from Government schools in joining medical courses has come down drastically due to the NEET examination. After careful review of this, Hon'ble Amma's Government, has decided to make a 7.5 per cent internal reservation in medical coourses from this year for rectifying this situation and helping students of Government schools to realize their goal of becoming doctors. I am happy to say that steps are being taken to bring a historic legislation for this reservation.

Thiruvalluvar asserts that farmers are the pivot of society. (Uzhuvaar ulagathirkku aani). Hon'ble Amma's Government is headed by a farmer. It always gives importance to agriculture. In the last 8 years, it has established a record of crossing the 100 lakh metric tonne mark in food grain production six times.

Hon'ble Amma and following Hon'ble Amma's Government conducted many court battles on the Cauvery water issue, which is of vital importance to delta farmers, set up the Cauvery Water Management Authority and is establishing Tamil Nadu's rights on Cauvery water through it.

For the commencement of timely cultivation for delta farmers, this year, water from Mettur dam was released on June 12 itself. Water to tail-end areas reached 10 days ahead of the usual time as desilting of canals had been completed much before the release of water. This has resulted, I am happy to say, in farmers taking up 'kuruvai' cultivation in delta areas in 4.11 lakh acres of land and thus have set up a record.

As a farmer, I am happy to state that the Districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur and Nagapattinam and the Cauvery delta areas in Pudukkottai and Cuddalore Districts have been declared as Protected Special Agricultural Zone and the Government passed a historic legislation for it within a short spell of time and created a condition where no agriculture-harming extraction projects can come up in these areas. This has been done realizing the sensibilities of delta farmers, their interests and the food security of Tamil Nadu.

To bring glory to agriculturists, cattle growers and fishermen friends, I am happy to inform that the foundation has been laid for a Integrated Livestock Park on 1,102 acres of land at Thalaivasal in Salem District at an estimate of Rs.1,023 crore and works are being carried out speedily. Construction works are going ahead in full scale for setting up the 5th Veterinary College in this campus.

Orders have been issued this year for starting a Veterinary College and a Research Institute in the revenue villages of Veerapandi and Thappugundu in Theni District and works have been started. Following this, a new

Veterinary Medical College will be set up at Udumalaipettai in Tiruppur District in the current year itself.

Due to these intensive efforts taken to bring prosperity into the lives of our fishermen brothers in Tamil Nadu, the State has captured the premier place in India in the production of marine fish in the year 2019-2020.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma brought about the second White Revolution for boosting the economic condition of the rural poor and the marginalized people. Hon'ble Amma's Government that majestically marches on the path shown by Amma has procured this year 39.1 lakh litres of milk on June 28, a historic record for the Aavin organisation.

'Water is synonymous with Life'; 'Let us safeguard our water resources to ensure our prosperity'.

In the last 4 years, restoration works with the participation of farmers have been undertaken in 6,278 water bodies at an estimate of Rs.1,433 crore under the 'kudimaramathu' scheme, launched to store the rain water obtained during monsoon periods without wastage. Likewise, 1,315 water bodies under the maintenance of the Department of Local bodies have been restored at an estimate of Rs.811.68 crore.

Similarly, Hon'ble Amma's Government has been constructing check dams across rivers and odais for the last 3 years, allotting Rs.1,000 crore. Small check dams, numbering 31,834 have also been constructed through the Rural Development Department at an estimate of Rs.730.4 crore.

For the Cauvery-Gundar link project, Rs.700 crore has been allotted. Hon'ble Amma's Government is the only Government that implements many water resources schemes like Athikadavu-Avinashi Scheme, Thamirabarani-Karumeni river and Nambiyar rivers link scheme.

Cordial relations with neighbouring States by Hon'ble Amma's Government have helped in the immediate release of 8 tmc ft. of Krishna river water by Andhra Pradesh for the drinking water needs of Chennai city. Similarly, the problems in the Parambikulam-Aliyar, Pandiyar-Punnampuzha schemes have reached a stage of smooth resolution in the talks held with the Kerala State.

For a country to achieve prosperity, quality education should be made available to all. As a result of the various steps taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government to achieve this goal:

- Tamil Nadu is in the premier place in providing facilities in schools as per the performance quality index released by the Ministry of Human Resource Development of Government of India.
- Even during this closure period of schools due to the Corona lockdown, video lessons are being telecast through the Education TV channel for 10th and 12th standard students to continue learning from home. Besides distribution of textbooks to 12th standard students, video lessons are downloaded in the laptops, given by Government at no cost, for the benefit of students.

- ✶ Tamil Nadu stands at the forefront in admission to higher education in India with a percentage of 49.
- ✶ In the recent research report of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council, in the higher education grade list, 18 universities, 18 engineering colleges and 32 arts and science colleges of Tamil Nadu have come in the first 100 ranks and thus recorded an achievement.

It was Hon'ble Amma, the warrior protector of social justice, who brought 69 per cent reservation for the Backward, Most Backward, Adi Dravidar and the Scheduled Tribes under the ninth schedule of the Constitution, to ward off any sort of legal hassles. For the socio economic and educational development of the backward classes, the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission was recently recast by the Tamil Nadu Government with a new chairman and members. The efforts taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government fetched a favourable verdict from the Hon'ble Madras High Court on the all-India quota for medical education for the backward and most backward students.

A guardian of the minorities, Hon'ble Amma's Government has started Muslim and Christian Women Aid Societies in every District. It continues to encourage Jerusalem and Haj pilgrimages. Financial assistance for the maintenance of churches and mosques has been increased to Rs.5 crore from this year.

For the last 3 years, a special scheme for the development of basic facilities in the Adi Dravidar and Scheduled Tribes colonies is being implemented at an estimate of Rs.300 crore. These works are being carried out this year in all the Adi Dravidar residential areas at a further estimate of Rs.3,200 crore by integrating various schemes in the Department of Rural Development.

As a continued encouragement for women's economic independence, Rs.67,000 crore loan has been given to 2.20 lakh women Self Help Groups. These groups were set up from the year 2011 to till date.

Puratchi Thalaivi Amma became a historic personality through her ever-lasting fame and governing capacity. Land acquisition works to convert Residence of Amma into a memorial have been completed. A law has been enacted for the setting up a Foundation, headed by me, for administering and maintaining it. Further, works to erect a Memorial to Amma at Marina are in full swing. I am happy to say that this memorial will be opened shortly.

Recently, I laid the foundation stone for an archaeological excavation of world class at an estimate of Rs.12.21 crore at Keeladi which has proclaimed to the world the antiquity of Tamil civilization. I am proud to say that works on the project will commence shortly.

The honour of starting 5 new Districts – Tenkasi, Kallakurichi, Tirupattur, Ranipet and Chengalpattu – in a year goes to Hon'ble Amma's Government. I am also proud to say that works are afoot to start a new Mayiladuthurai District by bifurcating Nagapattinam District.

When Hon'ble Amma took over the Power in 2011, Tamil Nadu was in darkness

due to power cuts. By her tireless efforts, she formulated many schemes and implemented them. As a result of those efforts, today Tamil Nadu is a Power Surplus State. When returned to the power in 2016 with a historic victory, Hon'ble Amma directed supply of 100 units of free power to every domestic power consumer. This has benefited more than 2.1 crore families. Particularly, about 70 lakh poor and marginalized families whose power consumption is within 100 units enjoy electricity at no cost till date. To implement this scheme, Government of Tamil Nadu had allotted a subsidy of Rs.11,512 crore in the last 4 years.

To create a slum-free Tamil Nadu, about 2 lakh apartments and houses have been constructed in the last 9 years at a cost of Rs.7,540 crore. To improve urban infrastructure facilities, works at an estimate of Rs.10,451 crore are in different stages of progress in 11 cities under the Smart City Mission.

The duty of the Police is very important in establishing rule of law in a country. Tamil Nadu continues to be a safe and peaceful State due to the decrease in crimes, thefts and accidents and the action of the police in bringing anti-social elements to book.

Tamil Nadu continues to be in the forefront in attracting new investments on a large scale on account of the two Global Investors Meet held in past years and my tour of England, the USA and Dubai last year, meeting investors. In the last one year alone, 107 projects with an investment of Rs.54,850 crore have come to Tamil Nadu. This has paved the way for job opportunities for 1,54,849 persons.

Hon'ble Amma's Government has set up an Experts Committee, headed by former Reserve Bank of India Governor Dr. C. Rangarajan, for retrieving Tamil Nadu's economy from the Corona damage and re-structuring it.

The Projects Today establishment of Mumbai has stated in its survey that Tamil Nadu has captured the first place in India as it has attracted new investments and created new job opportunities even in this COVID-19 period – that is, in the 3 months of April to June. This has become possible due to the focussed steps taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government.

In the Corona period alone, till now MoUs for starting 41 new industrial projects in Tamil Nadu have been signed. This will fetch Rs.30,664 crore investment and job opportunities for 67,212 persons. To offset the damage caused to industries in Tamil Nadu, particularly the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises due to the lockdown, loan approvals to the tune of Rs.7,043 crore have been given till date, pushing the State to the first place in the country.

Hence, Tamil Nadu will attain economic normalcy very soon and it will continue to be in the forefront.

This Government has shattered several obstacles on the basis of the 'taaraka' mantra, "Governance in Amma's way, Growth in all sectors"; it has implemented welfare programmes in every sector and is marching on the path of growth.

By way of honouring the 'Thyaga Chemmals' who laid their lives for the cause of this country's Independence, the monthly pension given to freedom fighters, I am happy

to say, will be increased from Rs.16,000 to Rs.17,000 and the family pension and special payment to their heirs from Rs. 8,000 to Rs.8,500.

Your Government is taking speedy steps, economical, social and legal, for the people of Tamil Nadu to lead a life of total health, wellness and happiness. This is a Government for the people and it is certain that it will remain with the people for ever. I have obtained your love and support and I firmly declare once again on this good day that I will continue to work, day and night, with Tamil Nadu people's welfare as my sole aim. The Corona Virus infection has affected the normal life of all people in the world. I pray to the Almighty God on this day for the speedy retrieval of all people from the clutches of this Virus infection and resumption of their normal life. Once again, my Independence Day good wishes to all of you.

Vazhga Anna Naamam! Valarga Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.R.'s fame! Onguha Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's fame! Thodarga Hon'ble Amma's good governance!

"Vaazhiya Senthamizh! Vaazhga Natramizhar! Vaazhiya Bharatha Mani Thirunaadu!

Nandri! Vanakkam!

News in Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** paid floral tributes to the portrait of freedom fighter Dheeran Chinnamalai, kept near his statue at Thiru.Vi.Ka. Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai, in connection with his death anniversary on 02.08.2020. Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister Thiru. O.Panneerselvam, Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration & Rural Development, Implementation of Special Programme Thiru. S. P. Velumani, Hon'ble Minister for Fisheries, Personnel & Administrative Reforms Thiru. D. Jayakumar, Hon'ble Minister for Transport Thiru. M.R. Vijayabhaskar were present on the occasion.

Hon'ble Chief Minister confers Independence Day Awards

On behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, presented Awards, Medals and Commendation Certificates to the Awardees and honoured them at the Independence Day Celebrations on 15.08.2020.

A.P.J. Abdul Kalam award was presented Thiru. S.Selvakumar Founder, Anandham Youth Foundation.

Kalpana Chawala Award for Courage and Daring Enterprise - Tmt. Senthamil selvi, Tmt. Muthammal, Tmt. Ananthavalli of Perambalur District;

Chief Minister's Special Award for Covid-19 - Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, World Health Organisation (WHO), Geneva;

Chief Minister's Best Practices Award - Department of Treasuries and Accounts - for Conceptualizing Integrated Financial and Human Resources Management System (IFHRMS) for total computerization of Finance, Treasury, Human Resources and Pension Management Processes of the State; Greater Chennai Corporation - for conducting Fever Clinics across Chennai to break transmission chain of COVID-19 pandemic; Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture and Plantation Crops and Agriculture Engineering - for adopting innovative water conservation strategies that enabled Tamil Nadu achieve first position in the Country in Micro Irrigation.

Citation for Good Governance (Certificate of Appreciation) - Tamil Nadu Medical Services Corporation - for Various

steps taken to ensure uninterrupted availability of drugs needed for combating COVID-19 pandemic; Cyber Crime Wing of Tamil Nadu Police - for developing a computer based model for tracing potential contacts of COVID-19 positive persons by analysing various available details.

Award for Exemplary Service for the Welfare for Differently Abled - Best Institution - CSI Higher Secondary School for the Deaf, Mylapore, Chennai; Best Doctor - Dr. Syamala, Salem, (Will be Presented Separately); Best Private Employer who has provided maximum employement opportunities to the Differently Abled Persons - Sakthi Masala Privated Limited, Erode;

Best Social Worker - Thiru. C. Santhakumar, Tiruchirapalli; **Best District Central Co-operative Bank** - Salem District Central Co-operative Bank Limited, Salem;

Award for Services rendered towards the welfare of Women - Best Social Worker (For outstanding-work done for women) - Tmt. G.P. Godhanavalli, Coimbatore District; Best Institution (for Serving Women) - Dr. V.Nadanasabapathy, Centre for Rural Education and Economic Development (CREED), Cuddalore District;

Chief Minister's Award to the performing local bodies - Best Corporation – Vellore; Best Municipality – First Prize – Villupuram; Second prize – Karur; Third Prize – Koothanallur; Best Town Panchayats - First Prize - Vanavasi, Salem District; Second Prize - Veerapandi, Theni District; Third Prize - Madhukarai, Coimbatore District;

Chief Minister's State Youth Award - Men's Category - Thiru.S.Arunkumar, Madurai District; Thiru.R.Ramkumar, Cuddalore District; Thiru.S.Ambedkar, Chennai; **Women's Category** - Tmt. S.Bhuvaneswari, Cuddalore District;

Presentation of Special medals to the COVID warriors - Health & Family Welfare Department - Dr.Rajendran, Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, Chennai; Dr.Uma Maheswari, Government Medical

College, Virudhunagar; Dr.Sathish Kumar, Siddha Doctor, Government Siddha hospital, Arumbakkam, Chennai; Tmt. N. Ramu Thai, Staff Nurse, Government Omandurar Medical College Hospital, Chennai; Tmt. Grace Emaima, Nurse, Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital, Chennai; Tmt. Aadhilakshmi, Nursing Superintendent (Grade-III), Coimbatore E.S.I Medical College Hospital; Dr. S.Raju, Deputy Director, State Health Laboratory, Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine; Thiru.Muthukumar, Health Inspector, Coimbatore Health Unit District; Thiru.Jeevaraj, Lab Technician, Palani Health Unit District, Dindigul District;

Police Department - Thiru. S. Syed Abuthakir, Manapparai Police Station, Tiruchirapalli; Thiru. D. Narasimajothi, Sub-Inspector of Police, Ananthapuram Police Station, Villupuram; Tmt. E. Rajeshwari, Women Inspector of Police, Greater Chennai Police;

Fire and Rescue Services - Thiru. Durai Robin, Fireman Driver, Nagercoil Fire and Rescue Services, Kanniyakumari District; Thiru.S.Palaniswamy, Upgraded Leading Fireman, Thuraiyur Fire and Rescue Services, Perambalur District; Thiru.S. Karunanidhi Leading Fireman, Manali Fire and Rescue Services, Chennai;

Municipal Administration & Water Supply Department - Thiru.S. Regupathy, Sanitary Inspector, Mamallapuram Town Panchayats, Chengalpattu District; Thiru. P. Pandi Selvam, Sanitary Inspector, Kodaikanal Municipality; Thiru.S. Kalaiarasan, Assistant Engineer, Division-102, Region-8, Greater Chennai Corporation; Thiru.M.Yesudass, "Thooimai Paniyalar", Naravarikuppam, Thiruvallur District; Thiru.E. Jayashankar, "Thooimai Paniyalar", Greater Chennai Corporation; Thiru. M. Shankar, "Thooimai Paniyalar", Erode Corporation;

Revenue and Disaster Management Department - Tmt. S.Jayachitra, Tahsildar, Kancheepuram District; Tmt. K.Jayanthi, Zonal Deputy Tahsildar, Salem District; Thiru. D.Prithiviraj, Village Administrative Officer, Virudhunagar District;

Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department - Thiru. R. Thiagamurthy, Salesman, Office of the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation, Adyar, Chennai; Tmt. P.Ramamani, Bill Clerk, Office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Kancheepuram District Co-operative Wholesales Stores, Chennai; Thiru.T.Tamilselvan, Bill Clerk, Vipedu Primary Agricultural Co-operative Credit Society, Kancheepuram District. ■

Action, Love, Service

Love cannot remain by itself – it has no meaning.
Love has to be put into action, and that action is service.

- Mother Theresa

Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for industrial projects of eight companies

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami laid the foundation stone for the industrial projects of eight companies to be set up on an investment of Rs.2,368 crore with job opportunities for 24,870 persons, at the Secretariat on 27.07.2020. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated the Commercial production of 11 Industries, set up on an investment of Rs.3,185 crore and providing job opportunities for 6,955 persons.

To improve the industrial growth of Tamil Nadu and make it the premier State in India, the Government of Tamil Nadu, that is following Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi's line of functioning, is taking many steps. As a result of this, Tamil Nadu is always in the forefront in attracting industrial entrepreneurs and big investors.

In these critical times, when the world economy is gradually recovering from the impact of the dreaded Corona Virus pandemic, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone directly for 5 of the 8 industrial enterprises and through video conferencing for the remaining three to develop industrial growth of Tamil Nadu.

Details of the projects for which foundation was laid:

1. An Information Technology Park – International Tech Park Chennai, Radial Road – being developed by CapitaLand at Pallavaram, Chengalpattu District on an investment of Rs.1,500 crore and with the capacity to provide jobs for 23,000 persons.
2. Tata Chemicals Silica Production Project at SIPCOT Industrial Park, Cuddalore District on an investment of

Rs.350 crore with job opportunities for 300 persons.

3. Electric and Electronic spare parts production project of Nissei Electric Company Ltd., of Japan at the Origins by Mahindra World City, Ponneri, Thiruvallur District, on an investment of Rs.105 crore with job opportunities for 160 persons. (The MoU for this project was signed in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister on 26.09.2019.)
4. Motor vehicle spare parts production unit of Usui Susira International Pvt. Ltd., Japan at Origins Mahindra World City, Ponneri, Thiruvallur District on an investment of Rs.100 crore to provide job opportunities for 100 persons.
5. Exhaust production project for diesel engines of the Dinex A/s company on an investment of Rs. 100 crore at the Mahindra World City Industrial Park, Chengalpattu District with job opportunities for 300 persons. (The MoU for this project was signed on 25.05.2020 in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister).
6. Steel parts production project of the Steel Shoppe India Pvt. Ltd., for vehicle factories with an investment of Rs.150 crore and job opportunities for 300 persons in Kancheepuram District.
7. MRC Mills Pvt. Ltd., processing project at SIPCOT Industrial Park, Cuddalore District with an investment of Rs.47 crore and job opportunities for 550 persons.
8. Sri Raaja Rajeshwari Life Care Private Limited medicine and medical equipment production project at Kambur Village, Villupuram District with an investment of Rs.16 crore and jobs for 160 persons. This company is to engage in the production of COVID-19 relief medical articles.

Through these 8 projects, Rs.2,368 crore has been attracted to Tamil Nadu and 24,870 new job avenues will be created.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami also laid the foundation stone for an Aero Hub High Tech Industrial centre at the Aero Space Industrial Park in Sriperumbudur, Kancheepuram District for high-level computer and engineering designing to industrial establishments connected with aero space vehicle production to be set up by the joint efforts of TIDCO and Tidal industries at an investment of Rs.250 crore.

The inauguration of commercial production for 8 of the 11 industries was done directly and for the remaining 3 through video conferencing. These industries were set up on an investment of Rs. 3,185 crore to provide job opportunities to 6,955 persons.

Details of the projects inaugurated:

1. Wind blades production project of TPI Composites, USA, set up at the CapitaLand Industrial Park, Kancheepuram District at an

investment of Rs.730 crore to provide job opportunities for 875 persons.

2. Vehicle spare parts knitting/packaging project of the Hyundai Glovis India, set up in Kancheepuram District on an investment of Rs.608 crore, giving job opportunities for 250 persons.

3. The industrial park project of the Sojitz Motherson Industrial Park, Japan at Sriperumbudur in Kancheepuram District at an investment of Rs.500 crore and with job opportunities for 2,000 persons.

4. Textile fabrics production project of Rajapalayam Mills Ltd., in Rajapalayam, Virudhunagar District which entered into an MoU at the global investors meet held in 2019 to set up the unit at an investment of Rs.350 crore with job opportunity for 625 persons.

5. Oil lubricants project of the Gulf Oil company, in Thiruvallur District with an investment of Rs.220 crore and job opportunities for 300 persons.

6. Warehousing project of the JMatadee Free Trade Zone Pvt. Ltd., in Kancheepuram district with an investment of Rs.80 crore and job avenues for 100 persons.

7. Medicine and medical goods production project of Hibrow Healthcare Private Limited, in Chengalpattu District at an investment of Rs.75 crore and job opportunities for 300 persons.

8. Information Technology services (Phase I) of TCS company, at SIPCOT Siruseri Technology Park in Chengalpattu District on an investment of Rs.24 crore with job opportunities for 330 persons.

9. Yarn and Garments Production Project of Mothi Spinners Limited, Lucky Yarn Tex India Pvt. Ltd., and Lucky Weavers companies, at Tiruchengode in Namakkal District with an investment

of Rs.451 crore and job opportunities for 1,150 persons.

10. Steel parts production project for vehicle industries of the Mahindra Steel Services Centre Ltd., at IndoSpace Industrial Park, Thiruvallur District, with an investment of Rs.100 crore and job opportunities for 75 persons.

11. Projects for the production of goods for the construction industry, of the Teemage Builders, in the Districts of Kancheepuram and Thoothukudi, with an investment of Rs.47 crore and jobs for 950 persons.

Through these 11 projects, an investment of Rs. 3,185 crore was attracted by Tamil Nadu, creating job opportunities for 6,955 persons.

Six of the 8 projects for which Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone are those for which Memoranda of Understanding were signed at the Global Investors Meet, held in January 2019. Likewise, of the 11 projects for which commercial production was inaugurated, MoUs for two of them were signed at the Global Investors Meet held in 2015 and for 8 of them at the Meet held in January 2019.

At the 2019 Global Investors Meet, 304 MoUs were signed, attracting an investment of Rs.3 lakh 501 crore with job opportunities for 10.50 lakh persons. Till now, 81 projects, inclusive of the 8 inaugurated on 27.07.2020 – that is 26.64% - have commenced commercial production. One hundred and ninety-one more projects – 62.82% - are in different stages of operation. Totally 89.46 % (that is 272 of 304) projects are in operational stage.

At the 2015 Global Investors Meet, 98 MoUs were signed, attracting Rs.2,42,160 crore investment with a job opportunities for 4,70,065 persons. Inclusive of the two, inaugurated on 27.07.2020, 44 projects have completed their works and started commercial production. Twenty-seven more projects are in various stages of operation. Totally 72% projects (i.e.,71/98) are in operational stage.

At this event, cheques for the interim dividends of the TIDCO and SIPCOT establishments for the year 2019-2020 – Rs.37.03 crore and Rs.40 crore respectively - were handed over to the Hon'ble Chief Minister by Hon'ble Minister for Industries Thiru. M.C.Sampath. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for Rs.12.21 crore Artefacts Museum near Keeladi

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami laid the foundation stone through video conferencing at the Secretariat, for a world class Artefacts Museum to be set up at a cost of Rs.12.21 crore at Konthagai village near Keeladi in Tiruppuvanam Taluk in Sivagangai District on 20.07.2020.

The Indian Archaeological Department conducted excavations for three years 2014-2015, 2015-2016 and 2017-2018 at Keeladi Village, on the south bank of the river Vaigai, 13 km from Madurai on the Madurai-Ramanathapuram Road in Tiruppuvanam Taluk in Sivagangai District.

Based on the evidence collected, the Archaeological Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu with the permission of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology, allotted Rs. 55 lakh for 2017 -2018 for the fourth stage of excavation. As per the guidelines of the excavation, the Archaeological Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu conducted the excavation. In this excavation 5,820 rare artefacts and brick structures dating back to the Sangam era were found.

The Government of Tamil Nadu allotted Rs.47 lakh for 2018-2019 for the fifth phase of excavation. In this excavation, another 900 artefacts and brick infrastructures were found. The sixth phase of the excavation by following the guidelines of the Central Advisory Board of Archaeology, was inaugurated by Hon'ble Chief Minister on 19.02.2020 at Keeladi and its surrounding Villages, Manalur, Konthagai and Agaram.

The recent excavations and scientific time calculations have revealed that people have been living in Tamil Nadu for over 15 lakh years. The present excavation showed that even in the 6th B.C. Tamils were educated. Earlier there was an impression among scholars that the second urbanisation, which was found in the Gangetic Plain during 6th B.C. was not found in Tamil Nadu. But the sixth excavation revealed that urbanization was found in Tamil Nadu in the 6th B.C. also.

Based on the expanded excavations conducted in six phases from 2013-2014, about 14,535 artefacts including terra cotta images, terra cotta earrings, beads, copper coins, iron objects and broken tiles with Tamil Brahmi inscriptions were found. Again, in the biggest archaeological excavations in Keeladi, urbanization and cultural growth of Tamils was revealed.

It has become imperative to showcase the findings of Keeladi excavations and the cultural heritage of the Sangam era for the future generations, students, scholars, foreign experts and archaeological experts. As a follow up measure, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for a world class Artefacts Museum at Konthagai Village near Keeladi in Tiruppuvanam Division in Sivagangai District on a 0.810 hectare area at a cost of Rs. 12.21 crore through video conferencing at the Secretariat 20.07.2020.

01.08.2020 - Bakrid Festival

'Cherish message of love and peace propagated by Holy Koran'

Greetings of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, on the occasion of Bakrid - *(English Translation)*

I am extending my happy and heartfelt greetings on the occasion of Bakrid to all members of the Islamic community who are celebrating the festival with divine feeling and a sense of sacrifice.

To proclaim that those who trust in God will be prepared for any sacrifice, God's messenger Ibrahim was ready to sacrifice his only son, accepting God's order. To commemorate this, members of the Islamic community all over the world celebrate Bakrid festival.

On this day, I appeal to all my Islamic brothers and sisters to cherish the message of love, peace and humanism as propagated by the Holy Koran and live unitedly with love and brotherhood. On this occasion, I once again convey my Bakrid greetings to all my Islamic brothers and sisters.

Hon'ble Chief Minister flags off 30 LED video vans to spread awareness about Corona Virus infection

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, inaugurated at the Secretariat on 14.08.2020, the services of 30 small ultra-modern L.E.D. video vans for spreading awareness among people about Corona Virus infection, an initiative of the Greater Chennai Corporation, by flagging them off. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also inaugurated distribution of pamphlets to 10 lakh homes in 3 phases of 30 lakh homes to create awareness about Corona, Dengue and rain water conservation, conveying Hon'ble Chief Minister's greetings to one lakh Corona-cured persons through mobile phone and the installation of multi-colour display lights at Napier Bridge and Dr. Radhakrishnan road flyover.

The Greater Chennai Corporation has fielded 38,198 workers in the Corona Virus infection preventive and safety works. To undertake Corona tests, it has 54 centres – 44 sample collecting and 10 mobile centres. Besides, it has commissioned 50 autos for collecting samples so as to facilitate conducting tests for Corona Virus infection at the homes of aged persons including differently abled persons. So far, 8,21,000 samples have been tested. Greater Chennai Corporation is leading other metros that have tested the highest number of persons. In Greater Chennai alone, the per day testing of persons ranges from 12,000 to 14,000. For Corona Virus affected persons, it has 18,614 beds in its 51 COVID-19 safety centres. It has 289 vehicles to transport the affected persons to hospital or COVID-19 testing centres. If Corona Virus infection is detected in slums in Greater Chennai Corporation areas, centres with all facilities and capable of accommodating 30,000 persons in quarantine are ready to take care of

the un-affected contacts of the affected persons. Special Fever Camps, numbering 500 to 550 are conducted in places of high incidence of Corona Virus infection for early detection of the occurrence and appropriate treatment. So far, 31,702 such camps have been conducted and 17,86,970 persons have benefited. A scheme to monitor the home-quarantined person through mobile phone is being implemented by the Corporation. A Chennai Community Intervention Programme has been put in operation to create awareness through cultural events and distribution of pamphlets.

In continuation of these measures, the services of 30 small ultra-modern L.E.D. video vans – at the rate of 2 for each zone – have been inducted for spreading awareness among people about Corona Virus infection. Through these vans, Hon'ble Chief Minister's awareness address and short skits prepared by the Department of Health and Greater Chennai Corporation will be broadcast/screened.

To control the Corona Virus and to increase testing, the Greater Chennai Corporation proposes to distribute Corona Virus awareness pamphlets to 10 lakh homes in its area by drafting the 12,000 field workers, now engaged in the census work on the Corona Virus symptoms of fever, cough and sneezing, 10 lakh Dengue awareness pamphlets in the context of the onset of monsoon and 10 lakh awareness pamphlets on rain water conservation. Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated these works. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also conveyed his greetings to some Corona-cured persons through their cell phones to mark the inauguration of such an initiative to one lakh persons.

The Greater Chennai Corporation has launched a Rs.33 crore projects to install multi-colour display lights in flyovers and subways at 37 places in the city. The Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the first phase of installation of lights at Napier Bridge and at the Dr.Radhakrishnan Salai flyover.

A cheque for Rs.7,44,48,000, the interim dividend of the Tamil Nadu Urban Finance and Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited (TUFIDCO) for the year 2019-2020 to Tamil Nadu Government – was handed over to the Hon'ble Chief Minister on 14.08.2020 by the Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration & Rural Development and Implementation of Special Programme Thiru. S.P. Velumani.

New industries in 6 Districts at an investment of Rs.5,137 crore

Hon'ble Chief Minister oversees signing of 16 MoUs to bring jobs for 6,555 persons

Memoranda of Understanding were signed in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the Secretariat on 23.07.2020, by 16 Industrial Enterprises with the Industries Department for starting their new industries in the Districts of Chennai, Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Dindigul, Tirunelveli and Coimbatore on an investment of Rs.5,137 crore. Through these schemes, job opportunities for 6,555 persons will be created.

In these trying times when the world economy is gradually recovering from the slowdown caused by the dreaded Corona Virus pandemic, the Industries Department of Tamil Nadu is taking up many measures for the continued industrial development of the State and to make it a front-ranking State in the industrial sector.

To attract new investments, the Hon'ble Chief Minister has already announced many measures like the setting up of a high-level committee under the leadership of the Chief Secretary to Government, creation of systems in the Tamil Nadu Guidance Bureau for countries to pay special attention to foreign investors, single window system facility to grant approvals immediately and a high-level committee headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and these have been implemented.

The Projects Today establishment of Mumbai has mentioned in its survey that

Tamil Nadu has overtaken Maharashtra and captured the first place in attracting more investments even in these COVID-19 times, in the quarter April to June.

On 27.05.2020, Memoranda of Understanding were signed with 17 Industrial Enterprises belonging to Germany, Finland, Taiwan, France, Korea, Japan, China, the United States, Australia, England and The Netherlands for an investment of Rs.15,128 crore. Through these projects, 47,150 persons will get job opportunities.

In continuation of this, Memoranda of Understanding were signed in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 20.07.2020 with 8 Industrial Enterprises for an investment of Rs.10,399 crore which will provide jobs for 13,507 persons.

On 23.07.2020, the following Memoranda of Understanding were signed for starting 16 new industries at an investment of Rs.5,137 crore in Tamil Nadu, in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. On account of the prevailing conditions, Memoranda of Understanding for 6 of 16 projects were signed directly and for the remaining, through video conferencing.

Following are the details of the projects:

1. An MoU for an Information Data Centre by Adani Enterprises Ltd., with an investment of Rs.2,300 crore at Siruseri, Chengalpattu District to provide jobs to 1,000 persons;
2. An MoU for a Forged steel and aluminium parts production unit at an investment of Rs.500 crore by the Super Auto Forge Private Ltd., at SIPCOT Industrial Park Vallam-Vadakal, Kancheepuram District to provide employment to about 800 persons;
3. An MoU for production of transport accessories by Airflow Equipments in the SIPCOT Industrial Park Vallam-Vadakal, Kancheepuram District, at an investment of Rs.320 crore to provide jobs for about 500 persons.

4. An MoU for a technology enhancement project by ATC Tyres at the SIPCOT Gangaikondan Industrial Park, Tirunelveli District at an investment of Rs.250 crore to provide jobs for about 400 persons.
5. An MoU for increasing the production of automotive electronic spare parts by Visteon Electronics India Pvt. Ltd., USA, at Maraimalai Nagar, Chengalpattu at an investment of Rs.100 crore .
6. An MoU for production of vermicelli by Top Anil Marketing Industries in Dindigul District at an investment of Rs.100 crore to give jobs to about 1,000 persons.
7. An MoU for setting up an Information Data Centre by Princeton Digital Group, Singapore at Siruseri, Chengalpattu District at an investment of Rs.750 crore with job opportunities for about 100 persons.
8. An MoU for production of Lithium Ion Battery for electric vehicles by BPL-FTA Energies Private Limited at an investment of Rs.500 crore to provide employment to about 300 persons. The company is engaged in selection of land at Kancheepuram or Cheyyar area.
9. An MoU for production of E-Bikes by the Srivaru Motors Pvt. Ltd., company at an investment of Rs.150 crore with the possibility of providing jobs for 2,000 persons.

During his foreign tour, Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the 'Yadhum Oore' scheme in the United States for overseas Tamils. Under this scheme, the following 7 technological projects, routed through the American Tamil Entrepreneurs Association were signed via video conferencing:

10. An MoU for setting up in Chennai the Autonomous and Continuous Governance for the Enterprise Cloud project by the Cloud Enablers Company, USA at an investment of Rs.35 crore to provide jobs to about 150 persons.
11. An MoU to set up at Chennai an Artificial Intelligence powered Food and Agri - Supply Chain project by Tier 1 Network Solutions Inc., USA at an investment of Rs.25 crore to provide jobs to about 20 persons.
12. An MoU to set up at Chennai a Digital Payments Project by SwirePay Technology Private Limited, USA at an investment of Rs.23 crore to provide jobs to about 30 persons.
13. An MoU to set up a Digital Health Project at Chennai by Plethy, a company in the US, at an investment of Rs. 22 crore to give employment to about 20 persons.
14. An MoU to set up at Coimbatore an E-Learning project by the Bitwise Academy, USA at an investment of Rs.21 crore to create employment opportunities to about 100 persons.
15. The US-based Radus Digital (for Harmoney Artificial Intelligence) company's MoU to set up at Chennai, its Fintech & Fitness applications project at an investment of Rs.21 crore to create jobs to about 100 persons.
16. The Continube company's (USA) MoU to set up its SaaS-based enterprise Risk Automation project at Chennai at an investment of Rs.20 crore that can create job opportunities to about 35 persons.

Totally, an investment of Rs.5,137 crore has been attracted through these 16 enterprises that can create employment avenues to about 6,555 persons.

Following this event, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated the new website of the Guidance Bureau of the Government of Tamil Nadu: www.investingintamilnadu.com. The website has been designed so as to meet the expectations of the investors fully, with special features like Department-wise attention, zonal connectivity and export development. ■

NEWS IN PICTURE

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** handed over a Government order for issue of 20 kg of sandalwood logs to Nagore Dargah Kandoori Festival, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu to the Nagore Dargah Administrative Committee office-bearer Thiru. K.Allauddin I.A.S., (Retired), at the Secretariat on 31.07.2020

August 13 - World Organ Donation Day

Donate organs, save lives!

Message of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on World Organ Donation Day
(English Translation)

Every year, August 13 is observed as World Organ Donation Day for removing the ignorance of people about organ donation, creating awareness about it and encouraging organ donation.

In the whole of India, it was Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma who first created the Transplant Authority Government of Tamil Nadu (TRANSTAN), on 12.12.2014. As a result of this, Tamil Nadu has become a model State in organ transplant surgery. So far, 8,163 organs have been received from 1,382 donors in Tamil Nadu. In organ donation and transplant surgery, Tamil Nadu has occupied the premier place for the fifth time continuously and got Central Government's awards.

Under the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme, a maximum up to Rs.25 lakh is given to poor and marginalized people to undergo transplant surgery in Government and Private Hospitals. Hon'ble Amma's Government is conducting many events to create awareness among people about organ donation. It is noteworthy that the participation of more than 12,000 persons in the organ donation awareness marathon competition held last year in Pudukkottai District found a place in the Asia Book of Records.

Tamil Nadu remains at the forefront in monitoring the wellness of transplant surgery patients and has created a 10-year data on them by periodically accessing information from the hospitals that performed the transplant surgery on them, on a quarterly, half-yearly and annual basis.

The percentage of utilization of organs from brain dead persons, barring those not usable for medical reasons, to those on death bed is higher in Tamil Nadu than in other States and internationally also.

Eight persons can be saved by donating the organs of the brain dead. Hence, I affectionately request all people to keep in mind the nobility of organ donation and come forward to donate.

Donate body organs! Live even after death!

Steps to boost income of farmers by creating shared irrigation facilities for Agri groups

The Government of Tamil Nadu is taking many steps to boost the income of farmers by increasing the cultivable areas through creation of new irrigation resources in the State.

As part of such efforts, the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture announced in the Tamil Nadu Legislature that agricultural groups would be formed uniting Small, Micro, Adi Dravidar, Scheduled Tribe and women farmers and Rs.10 crore would be allotted for setting up community deep borewells with pump sets. Accordingly, the Government issued a G.O. on 10.07.2020 allotting Rs.6.11 crore as the first instalment for implementing a Rs.10.19 crore scheme in the first phase in 14 Districts in the financial year 2020-2021, to benefit 118 agricultural groups in areas with no irrigation facility.

The 14 Districts where the scheme will be implemented are Ariyalur, Cuddalore, Krishnagiri, Kanniyakumari, Chengalpattu, Madurai, Pudukkottai, Ramanathapuram, Salem, Sivagangai, Thiruvallur, Virudhunagar, Kallakurichi and Villupuram. The Government had taken steps to prepare a project report that will benefit 1,233 Small, Micro, Adi Dravidar, Scheduled Tribe and women farmers in 47 firkas in these 14 Districts, which have been identified by the Public Works Department as having safe ground water and share the water among these farmers after installing the irrigational facility. The report will be implemented by the Department of Agricultural Engineering.

Under this scheme, works like setting up tube well/ deep bore well/open well, solar/ electric pump sets to pump out water and to lay irrigation pipelines up to the field to conserve water, will be taken up so as to benefit all the members of the group.

The permitted maximum expenditure for the different works, as per the Government order, is Rs. 3 lakh for a 90-metre deep tube well, Rs.1.1 lakh for a 100-metre deep bore well, Rs.6.5 lakh for setting up a 20-metre deep open well, Rs.3.25 lakh for a solar pump set of 5 HP, Rs.75,000 for setting up a 5 HP electric pump set and Rs.20,000 for laying pipelines. The above irrigational facilities will be created as per the needs of the area concerned.

If the group members desire to set up deeper wells or pump sets with higher horse

power than what has been determined, the group concerned should bear the extra expenditure.

The agricultural groups benefiting through this scheme should have registered their groups as per the Co-operative society rules. Water obtained through the irrigation facility created under this scheme, should be shared by members of the group as per the extent of land under cultivation. Maintenance cost of the irrigational structures and electricity expenditure should be shared by the members of the group.

Also, water recharging structures will be created in the lands that benefit under this scheme and modern micro-irrigation structures will be set up with 100 per cent subsidy. The State Government will take appropriate steps to extend this scheme to other Districts as per the need.

Clear stagnant water, prevent Dengue mosquitoes from breeding

Aedes Aegypti mosquitoes are mainly responsible for Dengue fever. These mosquitoes breed in stagnant water in and around living places. Even in 10 ml of stagnant water these mosquitoes lay thousands of eggs! To prevent the breeding of mosquitoes, it is advisable to remove broken coconut shells, used water cups and broken bottles, rubbish and garbage from the surrounding places of houses, as the possibility of water stagnating in these places is strong. If uncleared, these ultimately provide the breeding ground for the Dengue mosquitoes.

Water that accumulates in trays behind refrigerators and AC units should be removed at least once a week to prevent water stagnation in these trays.

To protect children from mosquito bites, they should be made to wear clothes that cover their entire body. At night as well as during day time, mosquito repellents may be used to protect children from mosquito bites. One can apply cream on the body to prevent mosquito bite. Mosquito nets can be fixed on windows and beds should be covered with nets to prevent entry of mosquitoes. Most importantly, the environment should be kept clean.

Alandur, Chennai Central and Koyambedu metros to be named after Anna, Puratchi Thalaivar and Amma

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami on 31.07.2020 *(English Translation)*

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, during the tenure conducted a feasibility study of the Chennai Metro Rail Limited Project and based on the feasibility report two rail corridors were selected, one 23 km long Washermanpet to Chennai Airport and the other 22 km long St.Thomas Mount to Chennai Central Station.

It was to the credit of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma that full-fledged implementation of the project was possible by acquisition of lands by the State Government and provision of the finance required for the project, which was estimated at Rs.18,380 crore.

For the speedy implementation of the project, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma conducted periodic reviews of the project during the tenure and inaugurated works and passenger services.

On 29.06.2015, passenger services on the 10.15 km elevated track between Koyambedu and Alandur stations were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

On 23.07.2016, project works for the extension of the first phase of the Chennai Metro Rail Limited Project by 9.05 km from Tiruvottiyur to Wimco Nagar, estimated to cost Rs. 3,770 crore, were inaugurated by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

On 21.09.2016, passenger services from Chennai Airport to Chinnamalai (8.6 km) and from Alandur to St. Thomas Mount (1.2 km) were inaugurated and 6 Metro Rail Stations, namely Chennai Airport, Meenambakkam,

Nanganallur Road, Guindy, Chinnamalai and St.Thomas Mount were declared open for passenger services by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

Orders were issued in September 2014 for a detailed feasibility study for the extension of the Phase II as the administration felt that the Phase I and the extension of the Chennai Metro Rail Limited Project may not be enough to tackle the increasing traffic congestion of Chennai Metro.

Following Hon'ble Amma, Hon'ble Amma's Government inaugurated the passenger services between Koyambedu and Nehru Park (7.4 km) on the underground track on 14.05.2017 and 7 Metro Stations, namely Tirumangalam, Anna Nagar Tower, Anna Nagar East, Shenoy Nagar, Pachaiyappa's College, Kilpauk and Nehru Park Metro Stations were declared open for passenger services.

On 25.05.2018, rail services on the 2.5 km. long underground track between Nehru Park and Chennai Metro Rail Station and on the 4.35 km long underground track from Chinnamalai to AG-DMS Railway stations were inaugurated. Simultaneously 6 Metro Stations, namely Egmore Metro, Central Metro, Saidapet Metro, Nandanam Metro, Teynampet Metro and AG-DMS Metro were declared open for passenger services.

On 10.02.2019, through video conferencing at Tiruppur, Hon'ble Prime Minister Thiru. Narendra Modi inaugurated passenger services on the 10.9 km long underground track between AG-DMS and Washermanpet and 7 Metro Stations – Thousand Lights, LIC, Government Estate, Central Metro, High Court, Mannadi and Washermanpet.

Orders have been issued for the implementation of phase II of the project with three corridors of total length 118.9 km, at a cost of Rs. 61,843 crore with 128 Metro Stations from Madhavaram to SIPCOT, Light House to Poonamallee by-pass road and Madhavaram to Sholinganallur. Central Government permission and financial sanction have been sought.

Alandur Metro, Chennai Metro and Koyambedu Bus Stand Metro Stations under Phase I of the Project have gained significance as they are located at vantage points to attract passengers. As per the recommendations of the higher power committee, it has been decided to honour the former Chief Ministers of the State by naming these stations after Arignar Anna, Puratchi Thalaivar M.G.Ramachandran and Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

Just as Chennai International Airport has been named Anna International Airport, Alandur Metro will be renamed "Arignar Anna Alandur Metro".

Chennai Central Metro will be renamed "Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G.Ramachandran Central Metro" like Chennai Central Station, which has renamed Puratchi Thalaivar Dr.M.G.Ramachandran Central Railway Station.

Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma inaugurated the Koyambedu Mofussil Bus Terminus, the biggest bus terminus in Asia. Hon'ble Amma took various effective measures for the implementation of the Chennai Metro Rail Limited Project. In memory of the various steps taken by Hon'ble Amma, the CMBT Metro will be renamed Puratchi Thalaivi Dr. J Jayalalithaa CMBT Metro. Orders have been issued by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in this connection.

District Administration, people lauded for keeping infections under check

‘Government will stand by Erode industrialists, farmers during testing Corona pandemic times’

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami at the review meeting with the office-bearers of the Federation of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Associations at the Erode Collectorate on 17.07.2020 *(English Translation)*

Welcome to all of you.

It is a testing time for all of us due to the spread of the Corona Virus. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been taking a number of steps to prevent the spread of the Corona Virus which is threatening the entire world. When compared to other Districts in Tamil Nadu, the disease is under control in Erode District. This has been possible due to special steps taken by the District Administration and the support provided by the people of the District.

The Corona Virus infections have to be taken seriously as they can threaten the life of a person. This is a disease that spreads from one person to another. When a review of the affected people in the last four months was made, it was found that those who were affected by Corona Virus had been affected by some diseases earlier. When such persons don’t take treatment immediately, the infection proves fatal. Such persons affected by the Corona Virus, should take treatment immediately and protect their

lives. So far, 67 per cent of people affected by the disease have been cured. In Tamil Nadu, about 1.56 lakh people have been affected by the disease. As the Government has increased testing and is providing high-tech treatment to affected persons, the death rate has come down. So far, 2,250 people have died in Tamil Nadu of Corona Virus infection as against 11,000 people in Maharashtra.

For industrial units, this is a challenging period. To return to normalcy, the Central Government has been providing various concessions. There are about 8,329 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Erode District. For them, consent has been given for a loan of Rs.350 crore. This credit facility will be highly useful to these industries to return to normalcy.

Many opinions were expressed here. The Government at present is under heavy financial burden. In Erode, full attention is being given to agriculture and the textile industry, which are the District's most important occupations. The demands of these sectors will be favourably considered by the Government, which will stand by those in these areas and provide the necessary assistance. Industrialists at this meeting brought various issues to the notice of the Government. The Government will take necessary action based on the suggestions.

Under 'Kudimaramathu' Scheme, every year a certain amount is allotted for de-silting and deepening the tanks, lakes and ponds with the full co-operation of the farmers.

To save every drop of rain, order has been issued by Hon'ble Amma's Government for construction of check dams in 7 places on the Bhavani river from the Bhavanisagar dam and soon construction work will start.

Check dam construction is being ordered in Gundaru. Steps are being taken to complete the Athikadavu-Avinashi Scheme. Through this scheme Erode, Tiruppur and Coimbatore Districts will benefit. For Erode District, the Government has been providing basic infrastructure facilities such as roads, drinking water and uninterrupted power supply even during cyclone and floods.

In Panchayat Union, Combined Water Supply Scheme will be completed in two months and you will get sufficient water.

We have given a Super Speciality Hospital to Erode District. A detailed project report is under preparation for a high-level bridge from Kalingarayan Highway to Thindalparai. More high-level bridges are in the pipeline. We have provided many ring roads. Expansion project for the District Collectorate has been completed. Many new schemes are under various stages of implementation. I am happy to inform that many development schemes are to be started soon and the Government will provide more infrastructure facilities for Erode District. ■

Bitter Truth

There is some self interest behind every friendship.
There is no friendship without self interest. This is the bitter truth.

- Chanakya

Aavin's initiative to make auto, taxi drivers agents of mobile milk outlets pays dividends

Under the guidance of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, the Aavin establishment has taken steps to engage auto/taxi owners and drivers as agents of mobile outlets so as to protect their livelihood in the present situation of Corona Virus infection spread in the State. In the first phase, it has appointed auto drivers and owners as agents in the Districts Co-operative Milk Producers Unions Ltd., in Tirunelveli and the Nilgiris.

At present, milk procurement from milk farmers is about 40 lakh litres per day and the sale is around 25 lakh litres.

The reduction in the safety deposit for the taking up of agency, from Rs. 10,000 of the pre-Corona days to Rs.1,000 now, has brought 575 new agents into the field.

For intensifying the sale of Aavin milk and milk products, steps are being taken to make use of the auto/taxi owners and drivers who have lost their livelihood, as agents for mobile milk outlets. Hence, by depositing Rs.1,000 either as cash or by cheque in the offices of the General Managers of Aavin establishment in Districts, one can get appointed immediately as agent of a mobile milk outlets.

In Greater Chennai, the deposit can be remitted to the General Manager at the Aavin Headoffice either as cash or by cheque.

The Aavin Administration has devised ways and means for auto/taxi owners and drivers turning into mobile milk kiosk agents, to get a monthly income of not less than about Rs.15,000. Hence, Aavin Administration invites all to make use of this opportunity.

Aavin establishment appointing auto drivers as milk agents in the Tirunelveli District Co-operative Milk Producers Union Ltd. Aavin appointing auto drivers as milk agents in the Nilgiris District Co-operative Milk Producers Union Ltd. ■

The Nilgiris

Tirunelveli

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates 13 completed schemes in Erode, lays foundation stone for 14 new ones

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami inaugurated 13 completed schemes costing Rs.21.73 crore and laid the foundation stones for 14 new schemes, to be executed at a cost of Rs.76.12 crore, from the Erode Collectorate on 17.07.2020.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, on behalf of the School Education Department, declared open 12 newly constructed classrooms, laboratory, toilet, compound wall and drinking water facilities, all built at a cost of Rs.2.72 crore for the Government Higher Secondary Schools at Kasipalayam and Kadathur in Erode District.

On behalf of the Agriculture Department, 1,000 metric tonne godown, at the Regulated Market Committee (RMC) in Ezhumathur, a 500 metric tonne rural godown, infrastructure facilities in the Regulated Market Committee (RMC) in Perundurai, Anthiyur, Gobichettipalayam and Sathyamangalam on behalf of the National Agriculture Market (eNAM), all constructed at a cost of Rs.8.20 crore;

On behalf of the Health and Family Welfare Department, reserve room and Siddha Medical Room for the Deputy Director (Health Services) Office at the Primary Health Centre, Chithode, costing Rs. 45 lakh;

A Combined Water Supply Scheme for Mathur Panchayat in Ammapettai Union, executed by the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, at a cost of Rs.5.52 crore;

The Chief Minister's Solar Powered Green House Scheme (CMSPGHS), built at a cost Rs.1.45 crore by the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department;

An auditorium named after Dheeran Chinnamalai, built at a cost of Rs.55 lakh at Odanilai utilizing MLAs Constituency Development Fund and Tahsildar office and quarters for Nambiyur Revenue office on behalf of the Revenue Department, at a cost of Rs.2.84 crore.

Totally, 13 completed schemes executed at a cost of Rs. 21.73 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Foundation stone laid for an eight-storied building to be constructed at a cost of Rs.64 crore to upgrade the Erode District headquarters hospital into a multi-specialty hospital;

On behalf of the Horticulture Department, a Turmeric Marketing Centre at Archalur in Modakuruchi Division at a cost of Rs. 3 crore;

26 classrooms, laboratories compound wall, toilet and drinking water facilities, at a cost of Rs.8.18 crore at the higher secondary schools in Athani and Thavittupalayam and at Chithode Government Girls Higher Secondary School;

On behalf of the Revenue Department, office with quarters for Revenue Departmental Staff at Erode, Sivagiri, Avalpunthurai, Vaniputhur and Bhavanisagar at a cost of Rs.84.40 lakh and on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department a statue for Dheeran Chinnamalai at a cost of Rs. 10 lakh at Odanilai in Archalur were laid by the Hon'ble Chief Minister for 14 schemes totalling Rs. 76.12 crore.

News in Pictures

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** presented the appointment order for Junior Assistant post to Tmt. Persis, daughter of Jayaraj who, along with his son Benicks died in the Sathankulam incident in Thoothukudi District. The posting is on compassionate grounds for the family (27.07.2020).

Sleep well to live happily

Sleep is a basic human need. Only those who get deep sleep are alert during waking hours.

It is deep sleep that promotes good health by regulating the metabolism well and promoting physical growth. Deep sleep restores the various organs of the body and strengthens them. It boosts the immune system and increases disease resistance. It strengthens the nervous and muscular systems as well as the bones. The first casualty of a happy life is sleep.

Sleep is absolutely essential for a person. One's success in the waking hours is dependent on the hours of good sleep that one had the previous night! For most people, failure to have adequate sleep the previous night leads to restlessness and irritability.

Peaceful sleep is the balm that wards away the tiredness of the day's work and provides the impetus to the endeavours of the coming day. If sleep deserts a person, peace follows suit and health is impaired.

In today's world, millions of people are living lives bereft of peaceful sleep. There are many ways to get deep and peaceful sleep.

- ✶ It is night sleep that is beneficial. One can have a 20 minute nap in the day after lunch, but one should not sleep in the day for a long duration.
- ✶ According to doctors, proper diet and exercise are necessary for a person to get good sleep, which determines the health of a man.
- ✶ Those who want undisturbed sleep should choose a room with good ventilation.
- ✶ Mattress and pillows should be in the right position. If you have back pain, neck pain and body pain in the morning immediately after getting up, then it means that the bed is not right.
- ✶ One should sleep in a noise-free place. One should not sleep with lights on; rather one should go to sleep in a room that is dark.
- ✶ Drinking much water during night could affect your sleep. One should have quenched one's thirst much ahead of going to bed by drinking enough water.
- ✶ If one drinks lots of water before going to bed, one would have to get up at night to go to the bathroom. To prevent this one should set the body clock right. Taking food, going to bed and rising must follow a set pattern.

Make early to bed and early to rise a habit. The problem of sleeplessness can be resolved by taking the right foods at the proper time.

One should reduce one's levels of stress, lest it bring the irresolvable affliction of sleeplessness.

One third of man's life passes in sleep. If one is active during the day, then one will definitely have deep sleep at night.

Only when both the body and mind rest, good sleep supervenes. Sleep is nature's gift to the exhausted organs of the body and to the mind.

By experiencing deep sleep, one can lead a happy and healthy life. ■

11.08.2020 - Sri Krishna Jayanthi

'Let us live by the ideals of Bhagavad Gita'

Greetings of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, on the occasion of Sri Krishna Jayanthi - *(English Translation)*

I joyously convey my heartfelt greetings and good wishes to all those celebrating the day of advent of Bhagavan Sri Krishna, who declared that he would take birth in this world whenever righteousness is thwarted.

Poet Bharathiyar sang in praise of Divine Child Kannan's birth thus:

"Kannan is born, Kannan is born

The breeze wafts the news in the eight directions!

Strong as a rock, lustrous as a gem

The Lord of the gods is born on earth!"

"Kannan Piranthan, Engal Kannan Piranthan Indha Kaatradhai Yettu Thisaiyilum Kooridum Thinnamudaiyan Mani Vannamudaiyan Uyar Thevar Thalaivar Puvimisai Thondrinaan".

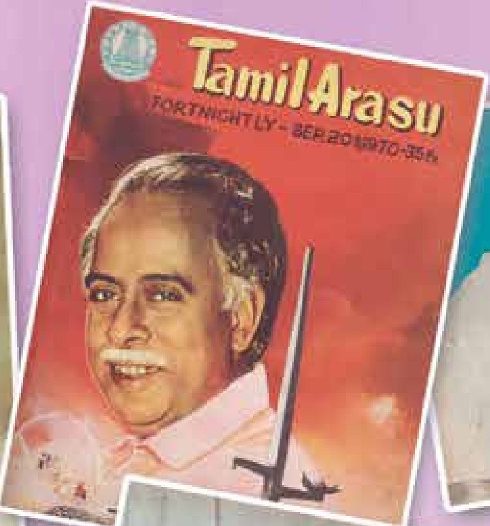
On the Avatar day of Sri Krishna, people in their homes offer the favourite foodstuffs of Sri Krishna - butter, curd, fruits and savories - to Him and imprint the footprints of their kids as Sri Krishna's baby footsteps throughout their homes and offer prayers to Him, with the feeling that Sri Krishna Himself has come to their homes.

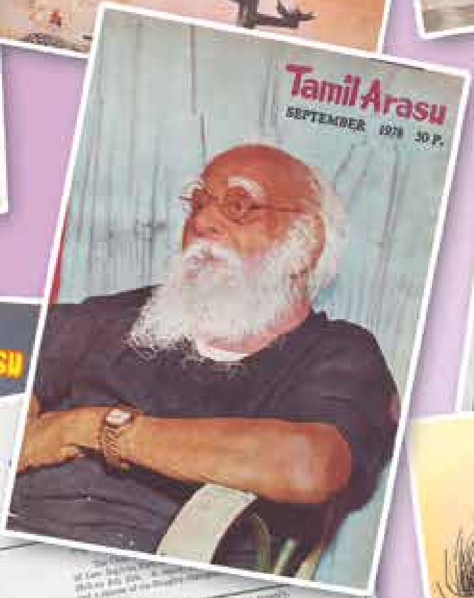
On the gracious occasion of the Avatar day of Lord Krishna, who gave Bhagavad Gita to this world, let us all resolve to uphold virtue and goodness in our lives and practice the ideals laid out by Him in the Gita - "Love all, discharge your duties without any expectations, be free from attachments and live a life of simplicity and humility". I once again greet all and extend my heartfelt Sri Krishna Jayanthi greetings to you.

News in Picture

To mark the distribution of appointment orders to the post of Deputy Collector to 27 persons, selected by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** gave posting orders to 14 persons at the Secretariat on 23.07.2020.

Tamilarasu - Time's footprints that beautifully project the Government's constructive works



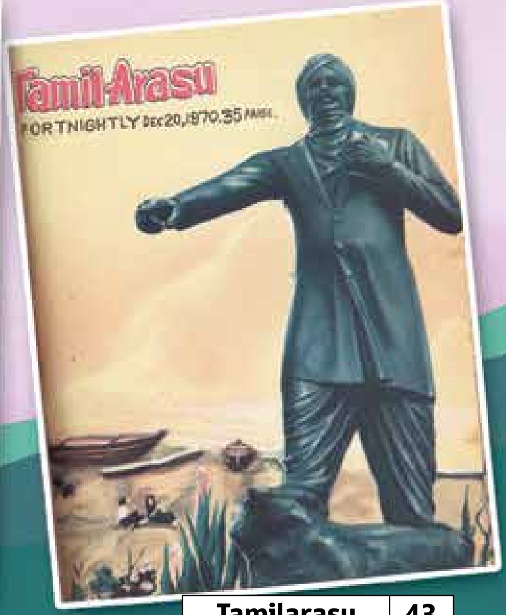


From 1970...

for the last 50 years, Tamilarasu magazine has been tirelessly publishing materials to read, treasure and benefit from

Tamilarasu

Centenary volumes that last for centuries



Flag code of India

The National Flag shall be a tri-colour panel made up of three rectangular panels or sub-panels of equal width. The colour of the top panel shall be India saffron (Kesari) and that of the bottom panel shall be India green. The middle panel shall be white, bearing at its centre the design of Ashoka Chakra in navy blue colour with 24 equally spaced spokes. The Ashoka Chakra shall preferably be screen printed or otherwise printed or stencilled or suitably embroidered and shall be completely visible on both sides of the Flag in the centre of the white panel.

The National Flag of India shall be made of hand spun and hand woven wool/cotton/silk khadi bunting.

The National Flag shall be rectangular in shape. The ratio of the width to the height shall be 3:2.

The standard sizes of the National flag shall be as follow:-

Flag size No.	Dimensions in mm
1	6300 X 4200
2	3600 X 2400
3	2700 X 1800
4	1800 X 1200
5	1350 X 1200
6	900 X 600
7	450 X 300
8	225 X 150
9	150 X 100

An appropriate size should be chosen for display. The flags of 450 X 300 mm size are intended for aircrafts on VVIP flights, 225 X 150 mm size for motor-cars and 150 X 100 mm size for table flags

Competitiveness

Competitiveness has three dimensions quality, cost and just in time in market. Competitiveness is the common factor between the developed and developing countries. Competitiveness is the crown in the kingdom of sweat.

- A.P.J Abdul Kalam

Tamil Nadu overtakes Maharashtra to first place in attracting investments

8 Memoranda of Understanding for a total value of Rs. 10,399 crore were signed in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, on behalf of the Industries Department, by various Industries in Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu, Ranipet, Coimbatore, Villupuram and Erode Districts at the Secretariat on 20.07.2020. Through these investments, about 13,507 persons will get employment opportunities.

At a time when the world economy is slowly recovering after it was affected seriously by the Corona Virus pandemic, the Industries Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu has been taking various measures under the guidance of the Hon'ble Chief Minister to make Tamil Nadu the foremost State in the country.

To attract new investments, the State has set up a high-power committee under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary. Various guidelines have been announced, including setting up of single window system to issue permission immediately and a high-power committee under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Chief Minister and they are all doing their work.

With the long-term perspective of taking Tamil Nadu on the path of development, various measures announced by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and due to favourable industrial environment prevailing in the State, many new investment schemes are being implemented in the State.

Projects Today, a Mumbai based firm, in its review report, has pointed out that despite the Covid-19 situation, during April to June this year, Tamil Nadu attracted more investments at the all-India level and attained the number one position in the country pushing Maharashtra behind.

17 Memoranda of Understanding were signed with countries such as Germany, Finland, Taiwan, France, Korea, Japan, China, the United States, Australia, England and Finland for a total investment of Rs. 15,128 crore on 27.05.2020 which will facilitate employment opportunities to about 47,150 people.

In continuation of this, in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, MoUs were signed for 8 new projects in Tamil Nadu. In view of the prevailing situation, 5 of the MoUs were signed directly and the remaining 3 through video conferencing.

Details of the schemes are:

1. At the IndoSpace Industrial Park at Oragadam in Kancheepuram, Vikram Solar Industries will set up an unit to manufacture Solar Cells and Modules at an investment of Rs. 5,432 crore, providing employment opportunities to about 7,542 persons. So far, solar cells and modules have been imported; hereafter they will be manufactured in the State itself.
2. An Industrial Park Scheme, at a cost of Rs.250 crore will be set up by CGD Sathrai Pvt. Ltd., at Walajabad in Kancheepuram District to provide employment opportunity to 1,500 people.
3. A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed for setting up Ductile Iron Foundry unit in Coimbatore District by Aquasub, at a cost of Rs. 200 crore; it will provide employment to 400 people.
4. An industrial Park will be set up by NDR Infrastructure on a 125-acre area in Ranipet district at a cost of Rs. 200 crore and provide employment to 500 people.
5. A Cashewnut Processing Unit at a cost of Rs. 36 crore will be set up at Marakkanam in Villupuram District by GI Agro Tech. It will employ 465 persons.
6. An Information Data Centre by Yotta of Hiranandani Group at Singaperumalkoil on the Oragadam Highway at a cost of Rs. 4,000 crore to provide employment opportunity to 2,500 people.
7. In Coimbatore District, an Air Compressor Unit by ELGI Equipments at a cost of Rs.250 crore that will provide employment opportunities to 600 people
8. In Erode District, SIPCOT IT Park Foundry expansion unit by JS Auto Cast at a cost of Rs. 40 crore.

Totally 8 MoUs for a total investment of Rs. 10,399 crore that will facilitate employment opportunity to 13,507 people. ■

Bringing humanism into the heart of humanity

'Human' is not a mere word. It is nature's greatest creation. It is the highest gift of nature after millions of years of evolution. The human, who has limitless talents, sparkles like a diamond only if he wears the crown of humanism. Sympathising with fellow human beings, moving with them compassionately, speaking to them kindly, treating children in a friendly manner, behaving obediently with elders and helping those who are in need are some of the features of humanism. Of these, concern for others finds a significant place. This includes not harming others, alleviating the sufferings of the weak, having sympathy for others and acting firmly.

Brothers and Sisters

Swami Vivekananda showed what humanism is to people of the world at the Parliament of World Religions in Chicago in 1893 by beginning his address with 'Brothers and Sisters' .

Our ancestors were really fortunate. They had concern not only for Nature but also for its creations such as plants, creepers, trees and man's own scientific creations. They acted with humanism with all of them. Man is Nature's greatest creation and he has been created by Nature only to safeguard Nature itself. How can you expect members of the present generation to show humanism towards Mother Nature when they are not showing any concern even towards their mothers? With the latest scientific inventions of mobile phone in one hand and a laptop in the other.

Our previous generation had a pleasant environment clean air, healthy food and good relationships and relatives. They all lived in a joint family. During those days there were at least 30 to 40 members in a joint family, including grandmother, grandfather, uncle, aunt and relatives of father and mother. The children, right from their early age were brought in an environment where elders taught them good Habits and Behavior. As the children grew up in an environment where they interacted with relatives, they knew the Value of Humanism. These interactions with elders also helped them develop good habits, behavior and attachment to relatives.

The next generation, instead of living as a joint family lived as separate families because of which there was disunity and a moving away from relatives. This created some distance between Relationships. Though they lived

separately they felt that they should have a minimum of two children and even begot three or four children. Though these children grew together with love and affection, they lost contact with relatives and with that they did not know the Importance of Relatives. When they saw their parents deporting themselves with affection, compassion and love with neighbours, they also behaved and played in a similar manner with next door children. Humanism developed in such an atmosphere as children grew up among friends.

Fading Humanism

The present-day parents, due to economic conditions and the feeling that bearing children is a tedious task, restrict themselves to having a single child. In some families, due to economic conditions and for ostentatious living, both parents work to earn more money. In the absence of father, mother or relatives, these children grow up in crèches. As these crèches function mostly with a business motive, they fail to show any love or affection to these children. Children, who once grew up in the midst of grandparents and relatives, are forced to live in a lonely atmosphere. They complete their school education in this manner and become youth when they finish their college education. They do not have any idea about the Importance of Relationships and Relatives and Love and Affection towards Neighbors. They do not know about the need to have friendship with society. In some families where both father and mother have jobs and go to work, both are always busy and do not have time even to talk to their Children. Love is mutual understanding between two people, it is solicitude, empathy, openness, identification, compassion, concern. Children who are growing up as well as youth fail to appreciate any of these qualities. Thus does the birth of malice take place. The youth fail to understand that they should show affection to others.

Love is the strength of Humanism

Though love and affection have different meanings, they mainly denote the closeness, empathy and positive feelings between two persons. In the Ramayana and Mahabharata, war during evening was eschewed. Women and children were spared from attacks. It is said that when Ravana lost all his weapons, Rama showed concern towards his enemy Ravana by asking him to come the next day.

This world is a garden of different species. In it there are a lot of human flowers. In this garden, while one section enjoys the flowers by seeing them, others would like to pluck them.

No permission is required to see the flowers. But, one should be the owners or protectors to pluck the flowers. Otherwise, plucking flowers is called theft.

Love, mutual concern, commiseration, compassion and social concern should develop between two people. If these features are exchanged truly then humanism will always be there. In the absence of even one feature, humanism will tend to crack.

Education in Humanism

Savants say that we must cultivate humanism. In keeping with the saying of Avvaiyar that what we have learnt is as small as a fistful of sand and what we have to learn is as large as the world, one should cultivate the habit of reading. We should continue to read books. In those days children learnt humanism from family elders. In those days, the reading habit was prevalent among all people. Unfortunately, today books about history, books of scholars, freedom fighters and National Leaders who fought for social justice, are left untouched in a corner, while Facebook' has gained prominence. Despite knowing about the deleterious radiation effects of frequent mobile phone usage, we have become accustomed to it and are not ready to put it down. Every house has Wi-Fi connection. For business competition, companies offer free SIM cards with free top up. People fall for such freebies and want to get more SIM cards or cell phones and speak all through the day for free. They fail to understand that this mentality will only lead to their ruin. It is unfortunate that we fail to reduce the usage of cell phones, despite knowing that we are harmed by radiation. We

take advantage of the technologies but also fall a victim to the dangers they pose.

Why should other species like animals, birds, plants, creepers and trees, which are born along with us and are entitled to the right to life, suffer because of us?

One gets education not only from schools or text books but also from news we read and hear and our day to day experiences. So newspapers, literary books, TV, radio, stage plays, cinema, songs and discourses are also tools of education.

Murders and thefts occur due to absence of humanism. Only due to lack of humanism, murders and thefts occur even among relatives and friends. Instead of protecting relatives and friends when they are attacked, friends and relatives themselves become murderers. In earlier times, mercenary killer gangs were few and far between. But today, even young people and women know how to contact such mercenary gangs. Through them they kill their parents, siblings, relatives and their close friends.

Humanism gives us the psychological maturity to forgive. But today only the mad urge for revenge is uppermost in the hearts of

relatives. But unfortunately today, even within a nuclear family there is difference of opinion between parents and children.

One should take children to their native villages and explain to them the natural surroundings. Instead of asking children to swim in swimming pools, ask them to swim in tanks and rivers in your village. Unfortunately we have destroyed many of our tanks and rivers. We only are responsible for this state of affairs. How can we get rains when we have destroyed our forests and trees ? We have failed to love nature.

some people. Humanism fosters the trait of accommodation. But today, the brutal feeling that "if I don't get something nobody else should", prevails among most of the people. Humanism makes one rush to the help of people who are in distress. But today, people simply watch others in distress or leave the place of occurrence as if it is not their concern.

If this attitude is to change, then parents should teach their children humanism right from their early days. In schools, apart from teaching lessons from school books, teachers should also teach humanism.

Education in humanism will give us a sensitive heart like that of Vallalar, who said that he became disconsolate whenever he saw a withering plant. Today we need a humanism that rushes to help others be they relatives, friends or others and shares the sufferings of others in accidents and natural disasters. This humanism can be implanted in the young only by parents and teachers.

Living in harmony with nature

In today's world we should try to live with nature. We should take our children to the houses of relatives during holidays. We should introduce our children to our relatives and create interaction. One should fill the gap between

Do not allow your children to be glued to their mobile phones all the time. You too should decrease the use of the mobile phone as much as possible. The youth, rather frittering away their time on Facebook, Whatsapp and Twitter, should study the biographies of great personalities, savants, freedom fighters and great leaders who have worked for social upliftment. They should cultivate the habit of reading.

Humanism is a bountiful word that signifies human feeling. Humanism is a word that is full of sacredness. Those who seek holy merit through pious acts of virtue, should rather look for human beings and show them compassion…that way manifold rewards will seek them out. We should welcome humanism wherever we find it. Humanism will continue to live as long as there is Affection, Compassion and Sympathy in the Hearts of people.

Hon'ble Chief Minister announces cash subsidy for farmers to boost vegetable and fruit crops

Horticulture crops play an important role in boosting the income of Tamil Nadu farmers. In the context of the increasing population and the good reception among people to nutritious vegetables and fruits, the Tamil Nadu Government has been making several excellent efforts to help farmers shift their cultivation from the traditional crops to horticulture crops.

To maintain good health, a minimum of 100 grams of fruits and 300 grams of vegetables should be consumed every day. Considering the increasing demand for vegetables and fruits in proportion to the growing population, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami announced in the last Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly session, under Rule 110, that cash incentive will be given to farmers cultivating important Horticulture Crops. The idea is to make available vegetables round the year.

As per this announcement, steps are being taken through the Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops to give an incentive of Rs.2,500 per hectare to encourage farmers raising vegetable crops in between seasons and to ensure availability of all important vegetables to consumers all through the year. To get the subsidy under this scheme, applications can be submitted by farmers to the officials of the Department of Horticulture in their Taluks with the following details: cash bill for the procurement of seed/ plant to be sown, excluding the traditional cultivation season, in a way as to come for harvest in deficit seasons, 'adangal' provided by Village Administrative officer / copy of the electricity 'adangal' and a photo of the cultivated field. The cash incentive for a farmer, under this scheme, will be on the basis of the cultivated area, subject to a maximum of two hectares.

Farmers who have not benefited from any subsidy of the Department of Horticulture, can avail themselves of this scheme to get subsidy. Farmers desirous of benefiting through this scheme can register themselves through the 'Uzhavan' app. Farmers wishing to utilize this scheme are requested to approach the officials of the Department of Horticulture in their area for getting details such as the likely season when the subsidy will be made available, the crop to be grown etc. ■

News in Pictures

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, at the Tirunelveli District Collectorate on 07.08.2020, inaugurated on behalf of the Departments of Revenue and Disaster Management, Agriculture, School Education, Hindu Religious Endowments, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Public Works, Labour and Employment, 19 completed projects costing Rs. 31.04 crore in Tirunelveli and Tenkasi Districts and also laid foundation stones for 8 new projects, to be executed at a cost of Rs. 208.30 crore on behalf of Public Works Department, Agriculture and Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Departments.

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, distributed Government welfare assistance to beneficiaries belonging to Tirunelveli and Tenkasi Districts at the Tirunelveli District Collectorate on 07.08.2020.

News in Pictures

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, at the Dindigul District Collectorate on 06.08.2020, inaugurated on behalf of the Departments of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Revenue and Disaster Management, Animal Husbandry and Horticulture, 18 completed projects, at a cost of Rs. 8.88 crore and laid foundation stones for 42 new projects to be executed at a cost of Rs.8.69 crore on behalf of the Departments of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Revenue and Disaster Management, Agriculture and School Education.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami,** distributed Government welfare assistance to beneficiaries at the Dindigul District Collectorate on 06.08.2020.

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, at the Madurai District Collectorate on 06.08.2020, inaugurated on behalf of the Departments of Revenue and Disaster Management, School Education, Registration, Transport, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Agriculture, Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare and Health and Family Welfare, 32 completed projects, executed at a cost of Rs. 21.57 crore and laid foundation stones for 31 new projects to be executed at a cost of Rs. 304.55 crore.

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami**, distributed Government welfare assistance to beneficiaries at the Madurai District Collectorate on 06.08.2020.

Restrictions within Greater Chennai Police Limits

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami on 04.07.2020 *(English Translation)*

Hon'ble Amma's Government has been taking active measures to protect people from Corona Virus infections and has been providing necessary relief to the people. After the Central Government implemented lockdown throughout the country on 25.03.2020 under the National Disaster Management Act, the Government of Tamil Nadu followed suit. Subsequently, taking into consideration the status of the Corona Virus, the State Government extended the lockdown up to 31.07.2020 with some relaxations. But, I had issued orders extending the lockdown till 05.07.2020 in areas under the Greater Chennai Police Limits. Now from 06.07.2020 the following restrictions will be in force in Greater Chennai Police Limits till further orders.

In hotels within Greater Chennai Police Limits, the eateries will be permitted to operate parcel service only from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. The delivery boys should get their identity cards from their concerns and have the cards on their person during delivery service.

Tea shops may function from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. but will offer parcel service only.

Vegetable and grocery shops are allowed to function between 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All showrooms, except malls and big shops like jewellery and textile shops may function from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. as per the guidelines already announced.

As far as other functions in areas under Greater Chennai Police Limits are concerned, where lockdown is in force, restrictions and relaxations will continue as before 19.06.2020. People are requested to extend their co-operation to the Government's efforts. ■

Desire

The fundamental desire of life is the desire to exist.

- Rabindranath Tagore

TANGEDCO clarifies on electricity charges

Explanation of Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited regarding allegations of excess billing of consumers during the Corona period - 15.07.2020

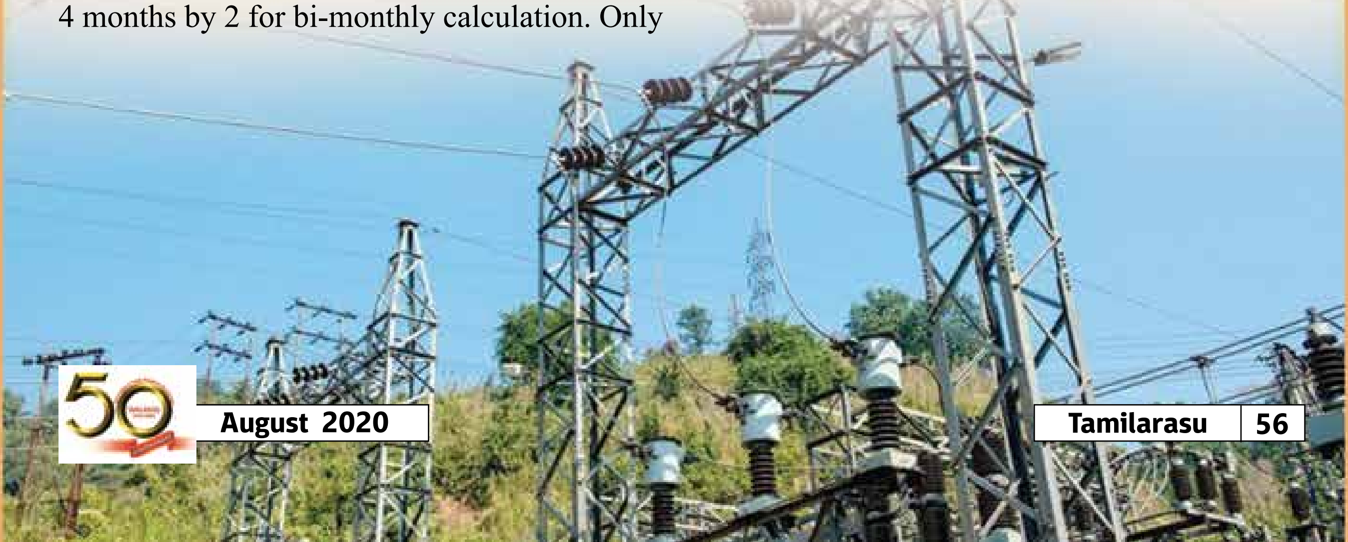
(English Translation)

Some sections of media have given wrong information that higher electricity charges were collected from LT consumers during the Corona period. According to them, in the calculation of power charges during the Corona period, 4 months meter reading is taken into account for calculation and higher charges are levied on consumers.

Contesting the electricity charges, a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) petition was filed in the Hon'ble Madras High Court. After completing the enquiry on 15.07.2020, the Hon'ble High Court in its order said that the calculation of the power charges by the Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited during the Corona period is fair and normal. During the Corona period, the TANGEDCO divided the total number of units consumed over the 4 months by 2 for bi-monthly calculation. Only due to that it was possible to detect the subsidy of 100 units for each bi-monthly calculation. The calculation is within rules and it shows the transparency of the Corporation.

To clear the doubts of the public, the TANGEDCO has given the following explanation:

The total number of units consumed over 4 months is divided by 2 and the slab rates are then applied to the figures arrived at for the number of units consumed for each bi-monthly cycle. Subsidy of 100 units is applicable to the unit readings in each cycle. The amount already paid during March and April 2020 is adjusted in the final amount due. If the consumer has paid more than the calculated amount, the excess amount will be adjusted in the future billing of the consumer. ■



Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation Stone for Arani RDO Office, Quarters

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami laid the foundation stone at the Secretariat on 14.07.2020 on behalf of the Department of Revenue and Disaster Management Department, for the office building and the residence of the Revenue Divisional Officer at Arani in Tiruvannamalai District to be constructed at a total cost of Rs.3.25 crore.

The Revenue and Disaster Management Department is functioning like a bridge between the Government and people by conveying properly the welfare programmes to the poor and marginalized people. For the development of this Department and in keeping with the great idea 'Government should go to the people', the Government of Tamil Nadu that works on the path shown by Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, is implementing many Schemes like creating new Revenue Taluks, constructing own buildings for Department offices and quarters for officials.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 18.07.2019 under Rule 110 that a new office building and a residential building for the Arani Revenue Divisional Officer would be constructed. Accordingly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the office to be constructed in Arani at a cost of Rs.2.75 crore and for the residence to be constructed at a cost of Rs.50 lakh.

Education

Education is the best friend. An educated person is respected everywhere.
Education beats beauty and youth.

-Chanakya

Hon’ble Chief Minister declares open for public use roads upgraded in three Districts at 217.27 crore

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 14.07.2020, declared open through video conferencing on behalf of the Highways and Minor Ports Department, the upgraded road from Kancheepuram to Vandavasi and from Sadras to Chengalpattu, within the Uthiramerur, Vembakkam, Chengalpattu and Tirukazhukundram divisions under the Kancheepuram, Tiruvannamalai and Chengalpattu Districts, laid foundation stone at a cost of Rs. 217.27 crore. The Hon’ble Chief Minister also inaugurated 20 bridges and 2 office buildings, constructed at a cost of Rs.31.26 crore and laid the foundation stone for a restricted vehicle subway, to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 28.99 crore at Chromepet in Chengalpattu District.

The Government of Tamil Nadu treading the path of Hon’ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, realizing the importance of road infrastructure for the socio and economic development of the State, has been implementing various schemes for increasing the road volume to meet the increasing road traffic and to ensure safe travel. In addition, new bridges are constructed across the State, quality roads laid wherever necessary and roads and bridges maintained well.

As a part of these activities, the Hon’ble Chief Minister threw open the upgraded road from Kancheepuram to Vandavasi (State Highways 116) 14/300 km to 36/700 km and Sadras to Chengalpattu (State Highways 58) 0/0 to 26/811 km within the Uthiramerur, Vandavasi, Vembakkam, Chengalpattu and Tirukazhukundram divisions in the Kancheepuram, Tiruvannamalai and Chengalpattu Districts at a cost of

Rs.217.27 crore through the video conferencing from the Secretariat on 14.07.2020.

Two bridges in Perambalur District, one each at Ezhumur in Kunnam Division on the Ezhamur-Mazhavarayanallur road at a cost of Rs. 1.98 crore and at Kolakkanatham on the Kolakkanatham-Sirukanpur road at a cost of Rs. 1.45 crore;

A bridge at Athankadu on the Athankadu-Thirunattampatti Road at Ponnamaravathi division in Pudukkottai District, at a cost of Rs. 2 crore; At Tirumayam in Tirumayam division at a cost of Rs. 35 lakh and at Keeranur in Kulathur division, at a cost of Rs. 35 lakh two sub-divisional offices and branch offices;

Three bridges, one each at Karuppampulam on the Kuravapulam -Karuppampulam - Kadinalvayal Road at a cost of Rs.2.20 crore; at Maruthur on the Panchanathikulam Naduchethi Road at a cost of Rs.2 crore; and Ayakkaranpulam on the Ayakkaranpulam-Pannal Road at a cost of Rs.2.68 crore;

A bridge at Kuravankulam on the Kuravankulam Road in Vadipatti Division in Madurai District, at a cost of Rs. 1.76 crore;

A bridge at Perumselvavilai on the Perumselvavilai Road in Agastheeswaram division in Kanniyakumari District at a cost of Rs. 1.09 crore;

Three bridges one each at Therkkukulam on the Kayatharu-Kazhugumalai Road in Kayatharu division in Thoothukudi District at a cost of Rs. 3.65 crore, at Vannipatti on the Pudur-Paralachi Road in Vilathikulam division at a cost Rs. 1.65 crore and at Venkatachalapuram on the Meenakshipuram –Venkatachalapuram road in Ettayapuram at a cost of Rs. 1.55 crore, all in Thoothukudi District;

Nine bridges, one each at Thalavaipuram on the Sankarankovil - Veerasigamani Road in Sankarankovil division, at a cost of Rs.50 lakh, Panthapulli (Km 1/10km) on the Reddiapatti- Panthapulli Road, at a cost of Rs.75 lakh, at Karisalkulam (4/6 km) at a cost of Rs. 50 lakh, at Mangudi on the Mangudi road at a cost of Rs. 50 lakh, at Karivalamvanthanallur on the Karivalamvanthanallur-Ullar Road at a cost Rs. 2 crore, at Naduvapatti on the Naduvapatti-Kolakkattankurichi Road in Tiruvengadam division at a cost of Rs.80 lakh, at Thalaivankottai on the Ammankulam Kattur Road to Nerkattuseval Road in Sivagiri division at a cost of Rs.1.70 crore, Ullar on the Rayagiri Western Ghats Road at a cost of 70 lakh and Vadamalapuram on the Nagaram-Sankarankovil road in Kadayanallur Division, at a cost of Rs.90 lakh all in Tenkasi District;

Totally 20 bridges, upgraded road and 2 office buildings at a total cost of Rs.248.53 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

In addition, foundation stone was laid for a restricted sub-way across railway level crossing 27 at Railway km 25/3 at Radhanagar, Chromepet in Pallavaram division in Chengalpattu District by the Hon'ble Chief Minister through video conferencing at the Secretariat on 14.07.2020. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for check dam across Pennar, initiates work for 22 more projects

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 31.07.2020, laid the foundation stone on behalf of the Water Resources Department under Public Works Department, for a check dam across River Pennar in Kandarakkottai Village in Panruti Division in Cuddalore District at a cost of Rs.33 crore through video conferencing. On the same occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for 21 new projects to be executed at a cost of Rs. 247.90 crore in 17 Districts.

Hon'ble Amma's Government has been implementing many irrigation schemes through the Water Resources Department, to improve the economy by updating agriculture practices, meet the demands of drinking water supply, save available water by storing it in dams without wasting a drop and to find new water sources.

In this connection, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone through video conferencing for the check dam to be constructed at a cost of Rs.33 crore across Pennar in Kandarakkottai village in Panruti Division in Cuddalore District. The new check dam will have a length of 575 metres, a height of 1.50 metre and capacity of 28.58 million cubic ft. In this check dam, to protect from floods 1,500 metre long wall on the western side and 500-metre-long wall on the eastern side will be provided. By constructing the check dam, the ground water level will improve considerably thereby increasing agriculture productivity and the quality of water. Due to this 2,912 acres of land will get irrigation facility through 728 bore wells.

In Thiruvallur District, Ponneri Division, Minjur Union, to provide irrigation facility to 1,602 acres of land, a new reservoir by linking Kattur Thathamanji Irattai lakes and increasing capacity at a cost of Rs. 62.36 crore;

A check dam across Palar in Ullavur Village in Pazhaya Seevaram Village in Walajabad Division in Kancheepuram District, at a cost of Rs. 42.16 crore;

Check Dam across Kedilam river in Elanthampet Village in Panruti Division in Cuddalore District at a cost of Rs. 15 crore;

Renovation and upgradation at a cost of Rs. 15.05 crore at Malattaru from 24,000 metre to 40,000 metre in Ulundurpet and Panruti Divisions in Kallakurichi and Cuddalore Districts;

An irrigation facility across Vellapallam Uppanaru at 21.200 km at a cost of Rs.30.96 crore in Tirunagari Village in Sirkali Division in Nagapattinam District;

A new infrastructure across Upparu in Sivagangai District by renovating it at a cost of Rs. 14.50 crore;

A flood prevention wall at a cost of Rs. 4.23 crore at Mullimunai Village near Mannar Bay in Tiruvadanai Division and near Seeniappa Dargha near Mannar Bay at a cost of Rs. 11.15 crore in Sathakone Valasai Village in Mandapam Union, both in Ramanathapuram District;

In Theni District, Periyakulam Division, Genguvarpatti Village, modernization of New Anaikattu canal at a cost of Rs. 10.52 crore, renovation of Rajavaikal Dam near Anaipillaiyar Kovil in Bodinayakanur Village in Bodinayakanur Division and flood protection wall on the western and eastern side at a cost of Rs. 4.91 crore.

Renovation of Malattaru Canal from 0 metre to 24,000 metre at a cost of Rs.7.53 crore in Tirukoilur and Ulundurpet Divisions in Villupuram and Kallakurichi Districts;

Check Dam across Nambiyaru at Kannanallur Village in Radhapuram Division in Tirunelveli District at a cost of Rs. 4.26 crore;

Renovation of irrigation sluices on the Arakkankottai Canal and sub-canal from ½ to 20/1 mile in Gobi Division in Erode District at a cost of Rs. 3.75 crore;

Reconstruction work of Kattuperiyakulam Reservoir across Thirumanimutharu in Natham Village in Natham Division in Dindigul District at a cost of Rs. 3.25 crore, renovation of pond at Viralipatti village in Guziliamparai Division at a cost of Rs. 2.92 crore and a check dam at Pula No.487 across Nangachiyaru in Thangachempatti Village in Oddanchatram Division at a cost of Rs.1.55 crore;

A check dam across Perambur Vari Madhayanaipatti in Viralimalai Division in Pudukkottai District at a cost of Rs. 2.98 crore;

Renovation work of Udumalai canal from 16.600 km to 23.170 km and in left- over canals of distribution canals in Udumalpet in Tiruppur District at a cost of Rs. 2.96 crore;

Renovation and strengthening of banks of Thirukannamangai Canal in Tiruvarur Division in Tiruvarur District at a cost of Rs. 2.80 crore;

A check dam across Arjuna River near Sri Sangili Karuppasami temple in S.Ammapatti and Vadugapatti Villages in Watrap Division in Virudhunagar District at a cost of Rs.2.59 crore and

Reconstruction work of Parambikulam Main Canal from 36 km to 39.50 km at a cost of Rs. 2.37 crore in Pollachi Division in Coimbatore District.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister thus laid the foundation stone for 22 projects totally costing Rs.280.90 crore at the Secretariat through video conferencing.

Backward Class status for Ezhuva and Thiyya communities

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami handed over to the executives of the Federation of Tamil Nadu Ezhuva and Thiyya Associations, an order of authorization for issuing Backward Class community certificates to Ezhuva community people residing in all the Districts of Tamil Nadu and another one for having included the 'Thiyya' community in the Tamil Nadu Backward Class list.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has received many petitions seeking the inclusion of Ezhuva and Thiyya communities in the backward class list. The petitions were examined. The District of Kanniyakumari and the Shenkottai Taluk of Tirunelveli District had been demarcated from the Travancore-Cochin principality and merged in Tamil Nadu. Following a decision to continue in Tamil Nadu also, the concessions that communities enjoyed in the principality, the Ezhuva community was categorized as backward class in the District of Kanniyakumari and in the Taluk of Shenkottai in Tirunelveli District.

A report was obtained from the Tamil Nadu Backward Classes Commission on the pleas for issue of backward class certificate for Ezhuva community people residing in other parts of Tamil Nadu and for the inclusion of Thiyya community in the backward class list. Later, a committee, headed by the Secretary to the Department of Revenue and Disaster Management, was set up to examine it.

On the basis of the recommendation of that committee, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the order for issue of backward class community certificate to the Ezhuva community people residing in all the Districts of Tamil Nadu and another order for having included the Thiyya community in the BC list, to the executives of the Federation of Tamil Nadu Ezhuva, Thiyya Associations.

Students exempted from semester exams, marks on basis of UGC, AICTE guidelines

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 23.07.2020 *(English Translation)*

The Government of Tamil Nadu set up a high-level committee to examine holding of semester examinations in the prevailing conditions for the students of arts and science colleges as well as engineering and polytechnic colleges in the State. The committee has recommended that a non-conducive situation prevails for conducting the examinations due to the Corona Virus infections.

In the interest of students, I have issued an order exempting the following categories of students from examinations for this particular semester (April-May) and promoting them to the next academic year by according marks to them as per the guidelines of the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE).

- ✶ Exemption from examinations is for first and second year under-graduate students of arts and science colleges and diploma students of polytechnics;
- ✶ first year post-graduate students;
- ✶ first, second and third year under-graduate students in engineering colleges;
- ✶ first year post-graduate engineering students and
- ✶ first, second year M.C.A. students.

I have directed the Department of Higher Education to issue a detailed Government order in this regard. ■

Acceding to request, Hon'ble Chief Minister orders water release

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami** on 28.07.2020 *(English Translation)*

Requests came from Kodiveri farmers for the release of water from Bhavanisagar Dam in Erode District for the first crop. In deference to their requests, I have ordered the release of 8,812.80 mc.ft. water from the Bhavanisagar Dam for 120 days from 01.08.2020 to 28.11.2020 for irrigation for the first crop in 24,504 acres in Arakkankottai and Thadapalli channel areas. I am happy to state that this release of water will irrigate 24,505 acres of land in the taluks of Gobi, Bhavani and Anthiyur in Erode District. I affectionately request the farmers to use the water economically and reap a high yield. ■

Restrictions & relaxations fine-tuned, people's co-operation sought to check Corona Virus infections

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 30.07.2020 *(English Translation)*

On the Central Government's guidance, the lockdown under the National Disaster Management Act is in force in Tamil Nadu from 25.03.2020 to prevent Corona Virus infections. The lockdown was extended up to 31.07.2020 on the basis of the review meetings I had held on many days, views expressed by the 12 co-ordinating committees comprising Senior IAS officers and those of District Collectors given out in video conferences held with them on different days, medical and public health experts in meetings held with them and the advice given by the Central Government. However, relaxations for many activities with certain regulations were granted in areas under the Greater Chennai Police jurisdiction and in the rest of Tamil Nadu in consideration of the livelihood of the people and with a view to retrieve the economy.

Hon'ble Amma's Government is diligent in safeguarding people from the Corona Virus infection, taking preventive actions for them, giving treatment and relief. That is why, the recovery rate after treatment is high and mortality low in Tamil Nadu.

The current lockdown order, to end on 31.07.2020, has been extended up to 12 midnight on 31.08.2020 with the various restrictions and relaxations already in vogue. This has been done on the basis of the review meetings. I had held on many days, particularly on the views expressed by District Collectors at the video conferencing held on 29.07.2020, consultations held with medical and public

health experts on 30.07.2020 and with Senior Ministers. Also, intensive lockdown without any relaxations, will be enforced throughout Tamil Nadu on all Sundays in the August month (i.e., on 02.08.2020, 09.08.2020, 16.08.2020, 23.08.2020 and 30.08.2020).

I. In Greater Chennai Police areas (except containment zones), permission is granted for the following works, along with the already permitted ones:

a. All industries, private establishments and export units that are functioning at present with 50 per cent workers will be allowed to work with 75 per cent workers.

b. Customers are permitted to sit and dine in hotels and tea stalls between 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. The serving establishments should follow the standard operating procedures handed down by the Government already. At any point of time, the maximum number of customers catered to should not exceed 50 per cent of the seating capacity of the establishment. The parcel services will be continued (upto 31.07.2020) from 6 am to 9 pm as it was in the previous schedule.

c. Public worship, following the standard operating procedures announced already by the Government, will be permitted with the approval of the concerned District Collectors in small temples - that is with annual income less than Rs.10,000 small Mosques, Darghas and Churches in Panchayat, Town Panchayat and Municipal areas. Public worship will not be permitted in places of worship where people gather in large number and in all places of worship in Municipal Corporation areas.

d. Vegetable and grocery shops which are already allowed to function from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. are now permitted to function from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

e. Other shops, already permitted to function from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. are now permitted to work from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

f. Establishments dealing in e-commerce are permitted to deal with all goods including non-essential items.

II. The following works are permitted from 01.08.2020 along with the already permitted ones in all Districts in Tamil Nadu (except containment zones), barring the areas under the jurisdiction of Greater Chennai Police:

a. In the context of granting public worship with the standard operating procedures made public by Government earlier in Panchayats, the same is now allowed in small Temples in Town Panchayats and Municipal areas- that is whose annual income is less than Rs.10,000 and in small Mosques, Darghas and Churches with the permission of the District Collectors. Public worship will not be allowed in places of worship where people will gather in large numbers and in all places of worship in Municipal Corporation areas.

General:

- ✶ The ban on Assembly of more than 5 persons in public places under Sec.144 of the Cr.P.C. will continue to be in force.
- ✶ Intensive lockdown will be enforced without any relaxation and as per the

present procedures in Containment Zones all over Tamil Nadu.

- ✶ Besides encouraging employees/workers to work from their homes, all industries and commercial establishments should strictly observe the standard operating procedures in their work places.
- ✶ Status quo will continue as far as transport by Train and Air is concerned.
- ✶ As per the procedure already in existence, ePass should be obtained from the concerned District Collector/Greater Chennai Corporation Commissioner for inter-District travel and for coming into Tamil Nadu from other States.
- ✶ Independence Day will be celebrated all over Tamil Nadu on August 15th, as per the Central Government's guidelines by following preventive measures like wearing mask and keeping social distance.

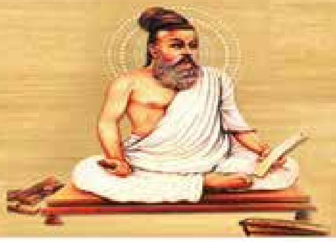
Ban on the following activities already in force will be continued till revised orders are issued:

- ✶ Public worship in all places of worship in Municipal Corporation areas and in places of worship in all parts of Tamil Nadu where people assemble in large numbers.
- ✶ All religious congregations.
- ✶ The ban on outside tourists visiting the Nilgiris District and tourist places like Kodaikanal and Yercaud will continue.
- ✶ Ban on hotels with lodging facilities, resorts and other hospitality services will continue. However, exemption is granted for isolating all Government servants, including those of Health and Police Departments and persons from other States.
- ✶ Shopping Malls.
- ✶ Schools, Colleges, Training Institutions, Research centres and all Educational institutions. However, they can continue online teaching and even encourage it.
- ✶ Ban on Air travel, except those permitted by the Ministry of Home Affairs will continue.
- ✶ Metro rail/ electric train services.
- ✶ Places where people congregate in large numbers like cinema theatres, gyms, swimming pools, entertainment places, bars, big auditoria, seminar halls, beach, tourist spots, zoos and museums.
- ✶ All types of community, political, sports, recreational, cultural events, religious and educational celebrations and meetings and processions.
- ✶ Public and private bus transport within the State and in between States.

Gradual relaxations in the above restrictions will be granted in accordance with the virulence of the Corona Virus infection.

Though, Government enforces lockdown and imposes many restrictions, the Corona Virus spread cannot be prevented without people's co-operation. Wearing face mask has been made compulsory for people while going out and in public places. This Corona Virus infection can be controlled only if people extend full co-operation to Government by frequently washing hands with soap at home and in work places, wearing mask while going out, observing

social distancing without fail and by avoiding unnecessary outings. Though the intensity of the Corona Virus infection has come down through the lockdown and the intensive testing in Containment Zones implemented by the Government, the number of persons affected by the infection is considerable. In this situation, the Government has to continue the lockdown to protect the people. Through this, the Corona Virus spread can be controlled further. Hence, I request the people to co-operate with the Government's efforts. Relaxations will be granted now and then and in a gradual manner after monitoring the trend of the Corona Virus infection and after taking into account people's co-operation and the status of the Corona Virus infection.



Inviting students for Thirukkural recitation competition

The Government of Tamil Nadu is conducting Thirukkural recitation competition for students every year with the lofty view of making the younger generation realize the greatness of Thirukkural through its 1,330 couplets and to help the youth become exemplary people by imbibing the ethics taught in the literary work.

On the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.Edappadi K.Palaniswami, the number of prize winners was increased from 50 to 70 from the year 2018-2019 to encourage participants, who have to recite all the 1,330 couplets from memory. Each winner will get a prize amount of Rs.10,000 and a certificate of appreciation.

The participants will be tested by a selection committee headed by the Deputy Director, Tamil Development Department, Chennai District. Besides recitation, participants should be able to answer questions like the section, chapter in which a particular couplet occurs, chapter number, the couplet's number etc. They should also know the special names by which Thirukkural is known. Knowing the meaning of the couplets will be an additional qualification. Earlier prize winners cannot participate again.

Students - boys and girls - desirous of participating in the competition can download the application form from the website of the Directorate of Tamil Development – www.tamilvalarchithurai@gmail.com and apply. For further details, the Tamil Development Department can be contacted (Phone Nos.: 044 - 2819 0412, 2819 0413).

Applications should be forwarded to:

Dr. Tha. Lalitha,
Deputy Director,
Tamil Development Department
Tamil Development Complex,
First Floor, Thamizh Salai,
Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.

Tamil Nadu fights COVID-19 with exemplary results, excels in attracting investments

Introductory speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**, at the review meeting on Corona Virus prevention works held with District Collectors through video conferencing, at the Secretariat on 29.07.2020 *(English Translation)*.

My greetings to all.

Hon'ble Amma's Government is continuously taking many special measures to control the COVID-19 Virus infections. The general lockdown is being implemented in Tamil Nadu with the necessary relaxations and

with great care. There are house to house visits to identify persons with fever and symptoms of virus infection and measures like RT-PCR test, quarantining and treatment are taken up. The highest number of testing centres have been set up – 58 on behalf of the Government and 61 in the private sector, only in our State. So far, 24.7 lakh persons have been tested in Tamil Nadu. The State continues to be in the first place in COVID-19 testing in the country. At present, about 63,000 persons are being subjected to Corona testing every day.

In the private sector centres also, testing is taking place. The Government has fixed the fee for these tests. The number of beds ready to receive COVID-19 patients for treatment at the State level is 54,091 in hospitals, both Government and private, 64,903 in special COVID-19 centres and 25,538 with oxygen facilities.

To deal with emergencies 3,962 ICU beds (in both Government and private hospitals) and 2,882 ventilators are kept ready for COVID-19 infection treatment. To give special treatment, 15,000 medical staff have been additionally appointed. This includes 2,571 doctors and 6,893 nurses.

The most essential and live-saving drugs have been procured and sent to all hospitals. Hon'ble Amma's Government continues to procure necessary medicines, testing tools, N95 face masks, safety gears (PPE kits), three-fold mask and CT Scan and X-ray equipment.

On account of these measures, Tamil Nadu is the State with the lowest mortality rate in the whole of India – 1.6 per cent – and has more than 73 per cent recovery rate. Zinc and Vitamin tablets are being distributed to all the field workers and to people in the containment zones, at no cost. The indigenous system of treatment is also given to patients in an excellent way. 'Kabasura Kudineer', the Siddha medicine, is distributed to a large number of people to improve their immunity.

Arrangements have been made for beneficiaries of the Chief Minister's Comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme and Government Insurance Scheme to get treatment in private hospitals if they wish. The Government has fixed the charge to be collected for treatment of COVID-19 infection in private hospitals, in the interest of the general public. Also, steps are being taken to encourage plasma treatment after having determined its efficacy in curing Corona patients completely.

During the lockdown period, Hon'ble Amma's Government has distributed cash and food articles to people in the lower rungs of society after ascertaining their needs. We have sent back 4,18,903 migrant workers safely to their home States. We have also safely brought back to Tamil Nadu, 51,711 Tamils working overseas, through Vande Bharat and Samudra Sethu initiatives.

Wearing face mask and observing social distancing in public places and hand washing in a proper way, have been ensured

through continuous awareness creation by the Tamil Nadu Government. I have recently inaugurated the distribution of re-usable face masks at no cost to the poor in Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Town Panchayats. These face masks will be distributed through fair price shops from August 5th. For the poor and marginalized people in Chennai, 46 lakh face masks have been distributed through the Greater Chennai Corporation.

Hon'ble Amma's Government is taking many steps to further improve the industrial growth of Tamil Nadu. Even in these Corona times, MoUs have been signed for starting 41 new industries in Tamil Nadu. Through this, Rs.30,500 crore investment has been attracted and 67,200 job opportunities have been created. I wish to point out that a private company's survey has mentioned that through these measures Tamil Nadu had captured the premier place the country in attracting new investments and creating job opportunities in the period April-June 2020.

With a Corpus Fund of Rs.200 crore, the COVID Relief and Development Scheme is being implemented to offset the damages suffered by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises because of the lockdown. Industries employing migrant workers can do so after testing them and as per the guidelines of the Government. Tamil Nadu has obtained the Central Government's approval to get about Rs.7,000 crore from its loan scheme, the highest and has thus become a front runner. This is made possible as, I have advised banks in meetings held at the State and District-level under my leadership, to lend money to industries immediately. At this hour, I wish to convey my heartfelt thanks to all employees and workers who are lending their total Co-operation to the prevention of Corona Virus spread and are putting in their best work.

As per the Health Department's statement issued yesterday, the number of people tested for Corona is 24,75,866; persons affected by the infection 2,27,688 – this is 9 per cent; the number of persons infected in Greater Chennai Corporation area is 96,438; the number of those under treatment (Tamil Nadu) now is 57,073; the number of those under treatment in Greater Chennai Corporation is 12,852; the number of persons cured and sent back to home in Tamil Nadu – 1,66,956; the number of such persons in Chennai – 81,530. Of the infected, the percentage of persons cured in Tamil Nadu is 73; as for Chennai, it is 84.5 per cent. The number of persons who died of Corona Virus is 3,659; in Chennai, it is 2,056. In terms of percentage, mortality as a whole is 1.6; in Chennai 2.1.

Of the 61,153 samples tested yesterday, the number of those affected is 6,972 – 11 per cent. Hon'ble Amma's Government is strenuously trying to prevent the infection from spreading. Hence, in the interest of the people, I request you to continue to extend total Co-operation to all the precautionary steps taken by the government in regard to COVID-19. ■

Hon’ble Chief Minister lauds Corona warriors in a meeting with District Collectors

Tamil Nadu has taken the bull by its horns, is succeeding in halting spread of the virus

Valedictory speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami**, at the review meeting on Corona Virus prevention works held with District Collectors through video conferencing, at the Secretariat on 29.07.2020 *(English Translation)*.

Greetings to all.

This is the eighth consultative meeting with District Collectors. In these meetings, the District Collectors have detailed the spread of the Corona Virus infection in their Districts, the steps taken in this regard and the works carried out in their respective Districts. Along with this, 12 consultative meetings with the District Collectors, headed by the respected Chief Secretary to Government, have been held. In those meetings, he has told the District Collectors, after deliberation, about the steps that must be taken. On account of the excellent work of the District Collectors based on the Government’s suggestions, Corona Virus spread in Tamil Nadu has been halted and brought under control, mortality rate has been reduced. I convey my appreciation for this to all the District Collectors, Secretaries of different Departments and all the employees who have jointly worked with the District Collectors. On behalf of the Government I convey my gratitude to the Doctors who are treating the Corona Virus in-patients in hospital in the appropriate way, nurses, health workers, conservancy staff and the workers appointed in the Departments of Panchayat Raj, Revenue, Police, Food and Co-operative societies for the prevention of Corona Virus spread.

The dreaded pandemic has spread in the country and in our State. The Corona virus infection is nearly under control due to the steps taken by the Government in these 4 months. Mortality rate has been reduced. Though lockdown has been enforced, we have created conditions for the availability of essential commodities fully to people. Rice, sugar, dhal and oil are supplied in fair price shops at no cost. Cash relief also has been given. For workers in the unorganized sector also rice, dhal, oil and cash assistance have been given.

Arrangements have been made for family card holders to get essential commodities in fair price shops on a particular date and time through distribution of tokens. The Government is ensuring all facilities without any laxity.

As the poor and marginalized people cannot afford to purchase face masks, Hon'ble Amma's Government announced that it would distribute them at no cost and I inaugurated that scheme. In the first phase, the distribution of 2 masks each through fair price shops to all people in Municipal Corporations barring Greater Chennai Corporation and in Municipalities and Town Panchayats will be implemented from August 5.

As for agricultural works, they are being carried out excellently without any hindrance. If a pointed mention is to be made, we have released water in delta Districts on the scheduled date and at the appointed time. It was planned to raise kuruvai crop in delta areas in 3,50,000 acres but the target has been exceeded at 3,54,000 acres. I wish to inform that 15,000 more acres are to come under kuruvai cultivation. Hon'ble Amma's Government has brought about this historic achievement after 10 years. Water has reached the tail-end areas at the scheduled time as the Government has dredged canals in delta areas in a proper way.

The needed vegetables at low prices are available to people without any interruption. In rural areas, the 100-day work scheme is in full swing. About 85 per cent of the 'kudimaramathu' works announced already, have been completed all over Tamil Nadu. I have requested the District Collectors to complete the remaining 15 per cent works and create the conditions for conserving the monsoon rain water without wasting even a drop.

In Greater Chennai Corporation area, the Corona Virus spread was increasing. To control it, many steps were undertaken. As a part of it, face mask was distributed at no cost to the residents in the slum clearance board apartments and to the people dwelling in huts. About 500 to 600 fever camps were conducted per day. In the Greater Chennai Corporation area alone, 25,532 fever camps were conducted. In these camps, about 14,50,000 persons were tested and those found to be infected were admitted to hospital and given treatment. As a result of this, the Corona Virus infection is coming down in Chennai city. Moreover, door to door visit is undertaken in Chennai city to identify persons with symptoms like fever, cough, throat pain and sneezing and treat them in hospital after subjecting them to tests. Through this, Corona Virus spread is prevented. About 20,000 workers are engaged in this task in Chennai alone. Like this, in other Districts also the infection spread has been controlled due to the organization of fever camps and by subjecting thousands of persons to tests and treatment. We have brought the Corona virus spread in Chennai under control gradually through repeated visits of Government-appointed officials to houses to enquire and subject to tests those who exhibit Corona symptoms. Likewise, beds are kept ready in Chennai and in all Districts for giving treatment to the affected persons. Totally, 1,196 mobile hospitals have been got ready – 70 in

Chennai and 1,126 in the rest of the Districts. This facilitates visit to areas where the symptom of the infection is more, testing and treating persons with the symptoms of infection, thus preventing the infection spread.

Accepting the demand that industries should function with the full complement of labour force, permission has been granted to industries to carry on their activities with 50 per cent work force in Chennai and with 100 per cent in other Districts and they are working accordingly. On the averment of all District Collectors that industrialists had told them of the desire of the migrant workers who had gone back to their native states due to Corona virus spread, to resume their work in Tamil Nadu, the Government assured them of grant of permission and permitted the industries to re-appoint the migrant workers after testing them and in accordance with Government's guidelines.

At a time when the Corona Virus is threatening the entire world, treatment is being given to the affected persons in an excellent and proper manner in Tamil Nadu. The number of persons who recover is also increasing. The total number of persons affected till yesterday was 2,27,688; the number of persons who got cured and went back to their homes 1,66,956; the number of persons under treatment now is 57,073; the number of persons who died is 3,659. The death rate has been brought down due to the steps taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government; the recovery rate has gone up. With a per day testing of about 63,000 persons, Tamil Nadu occupies the first place in India in conducting the highest number of tests.

One hundred and nineteen testing centres have been set up in Tamil Nadu. So far, 24,75,866 tests have been conducted. The Government continues to fulfil people's needs.

As the monsoon has set in, District Collectors have been advised to take all necessary steps for the conserving rain water without any waste.

Some of the District Collectors have been affected by the Corona Virus and they are under treatment now. Likewise, workers from the Departments of Local Administration, Police, Revenue, Food, Co-operation and many other Departments have contracted the infection while they were engaged in Corona Virus preventive works and they are being treated. I pray to God that all of them should recover speedily and return to normal health.

The people, too should lend their full co-operation to Government. Corona Virus spread can be prevented to the extent to which people give their co-operation. As I have already said several times, people should invariably wear face mask while going out, follow social distancing even while going to places like markets, grocery shops and banks, wash their hands with soap without fail after returning home and keep the house and toilets clean. By adopting these things, we can prevent Corona Virus spread and return to normalcy. Hence, I affectionately request people to follow the procedures announced by the Government. I wish to inform that in the whole of India, Tamil Nadu excels in taking strong steps to prevent Corona virus infections.

On the basis of the reports and suggestions of the World Health Organization, the Health Department of the Central Government, ICMR and medical experts of Tamil Nadu, Hon'ble Amma's Government is taking steps for the prevention of the virus infection through all means. My repeated request to people is: kindly follow Government announced procedures.

Nandri! Vanakkam!

Applications invited from Tamil savants

Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami has instituted many awards as never before, for the Tamil language and its growth and for Tamil scholars who work for the development of the language, following in the footsteps of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma.

To this end, the Government of Tamil Nadu invites applications for the following awards to be given on the Thiruvalluvar Day in the Tamil month of Thai (2021). Application forms can be downloaded from the Tamil Development Department website www.tamilvalarchithurai.com free of cost.

Applicants, along with their personal details, should enclose two photographs, list of books written by them and one copy of each book and send their applications to Director of Tamil Development, Directorate of Tamil Development, Tamil Development Complex, First Floor, Tamil Salai, Egmore, Chennai - 600 008 on or before 30.09.2020. Telephone No. 044 28190412, 044 28190413 and tamilvalarchithurai@gmail.com

1. Thiruvalluvar Award – 2021 (For those who propagate Thirukkural Neri).

2. Mahakavi Bharathiyar Award – 2020 (For those who are well versed in all the poet's writings, have done research on them and written poetic and prose works on Bharathiyar or have served to highlight his life and works in other ways).

3. Pavendar Bharathidasan Award – 2020 to the best Tamil Poet.

4. Tamil Thendral Thiru.Vi.ka. Award – 2020 to the best Tamil writer.

5. K.A.P. Viswanatham Award – 2020 to the best Tamil Scholar.

6. Perunthalaivar Kamarajar Award - 2020 to a person who is doing dedicated service for spreading education among the poor in the footsteps of Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, who opened schools in all villages, introduced free education, noon meal scheme and thereby made education accessible to all.

7. Perarignar Anna Award - 2020 (For those who relentlessly work for the uplift of Tamil society).

Based on medical advice, Corona's wings clipped in Chennai, Districts to follow

Welcome to all of you.

Hon'ble Amma's Government has been taking various special measures to contain the spread of Corona Virus which is threatening the entire world. Now, we see that the virus spread which was high in Greater Chennai Corporation area, is coming down thanks to correct measures taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government on the advice of medical experts.

Chennai is a heavily populated Corporation. Houses are located in narrow lanes and are very close to each other. Due to the dense population in Greater Chennai Corporation, the virus spreads easily and quickly from the affected person to others. A vigorous awareness campaign was therefore undertaken and thereby the virus spread was reduced. In Chennai, about 25,532 fever camps have been conducted everyday and 500 to 600 persons were tested

daily in each camp and those with symptoms of the disease were admitted immediately to hospital and given treatment. Similarly 20,000 employees are visiting each house at least 10 to 12 times to check whether any inmates are having symptoms of fever, cough, cold or throat pain. In case there are persons with any one of these symptoms, they are subjected to tests and admitted in hospital for treatment. Due to this also, the disease spread has come down. About 14.5 lakh people have been subjected to examination through fever camps. Apart from these measures, through 1,196 mobile hospitals, all those living in Corona Virus spots have been subjected to examination and in case of any disease symptoms, given necessary treatment. Through these measures, the virus spread has been contained in Chennai Corporation.

I would like to inform you that the movement of the people living in the contaminated zones has been kept in check and essential articles are being supplied to them at their doorsteps.

In the Greater Chennai Corporation, the needed beds have been provided in hospitals to give treatment to the affected people. For those living in slum areas in Chennai, masks are given free of cost by the Greater Chennai Corporation.

Apart from this, the Government has launched a scheme to supply masks to people. The scheme is coming into force from August 5th and to start with, two masks will be supplied to those living in the Corporation areas, Municipalities and Town Panchayats.

Hon'ble Amma's Government, in co-ordination with the private sector, has set up 119 centres so that Tamil Nadu has the highest number of testing centres in the country. Yesterday itself, about 60,794 people were subjected to examination. In Tamil Nadu so far, 25,36,660 tested and stands first in the country in conducting the highest number of tests in the country by examining 2,34,114 persons. Due to protective measures taken by Hon'ble Amma's Government based on the advice given by medical experts and the excellent treatment provided by the doctors, 1,72,883 persons have been cured and have returned home. So far, 3,741 persons have died of Corona Virus infection. The mortality rate in Tamil Nadu is 1.6 per cent; in Chennai it is 2.1 per cent. I would like to inform you that, the mortality rate in Tamil Nadu is the lowest in the country.

The medical experts participating in the medical advisory meeting have given suggestions. Based on the suggestions, doctors in Government hospitals are giving treatment and curing the people affected by the virus. Along with this, the Government is also implementing the preventive measures suggested by you and thereby the spread is slowly coming down in Chennai. There are indications that the incidence of the disease is coming down in the Districts also. Fever camps are being conducted in other districts. The necessary bed facilities have been arranged. The required medical facilities have been provided by the Government. Medical experts have come here at the invitation of the Government and have given suggestions. I would like to inform you that, the Government will act as per the suggestions.

Tamil Development awards for the best books of 2019: applications invited under 33 heads

By honouring Tamil scholars and writers with innumerable awards, citations with prizes and welfare schemes, Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma served the Tamil language and the cause of Tamil Development as never before in Tamil Nadu history. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, following Puratchi Thalaivi Amma's great example, has announced, for the multi-faceted development of Tamil language, many schemes worth several crores of rupees, many welfare schemes and has instituted 72 awards; and is tirelessly working to foster the Tamil language through creation of Chairs and financial assistance at the global level to highlight the glory of Tamil.

As per the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, for the best book competition for the year 2019, Tamil books published in that year (from 01.01.2019 to 31.12.2019), under the following 33 categories are invited for scrutiny. Under each category, only one book will be selected and an award of Rs.30,000 will be given to the author and Rs.10,000 to the publisher.

Following are the categories: 1) Traditional poetry 2) Modern Poetry 3) Novel 4) Short story 5) Drama (Dialogue, Poem) 6) Children's literature 7) Literary criticism, analysis (Thiranaaivu) 8) History of language, Science of language, Language development, Grammar 9) Translated works (from other languages to Tamil) 10) Fine arts (music, painted pictures, dance, sculpture) 11) Dictionary, encyclopedia, technical word coinage, official Tamil language 12) Travelogue 13) Biography, autobiography 14) National History, Stone inscription, archaeology, oceanography and maritime routes, excavation 15) Mathematics, Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry 16) Engineering, Technology 17) Anthropology, Sociology, Geography, Geology 18) Law, Politics 19) Economics, Commerce, Management 20) Pharmocology, Biology, Wellness 21) Tamil medicinal books (Siddha, Ayurveda) 22) Religion, Spirituality, Epistemology 23) Educational science, psychology 24) Agriculture, Animal Husbandry 25) Environment 26) Computer science 27) Folklore 28) Overseas Tamil literature 29) Journalism, Information technology 30) Other special publications 31) Sports 32) Women's Literature 33) Way of life of Tamils.

Application form and rules and regulations for the competition can be obtained directly from the following address or through post or can be downloaded at no cost from this Department's website: *www.tamilvalarchithurai.com*

Director of Tamil Development,
Tamil Development complex (First floor),
Thamizhsalai, Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.
Phone No. 044-28190412; 28190413.

To receive the application form through post, a self addressed envelope of the size 23 x 10 cm, affixed with a stamp for Rs.10 should be enclosed.

Along with the application, 10 copies of the book and a demand draft for Rs.100 in the favour of 'Director of Tamil Development, Chennai' as competition fee, should be given.

The last date for the receipt of the completed application is 30.10.2020.

Government's pro-active steps facilitate record Kuruvai coverage in Delta Districts

In the current year, following sufficient inflow of water into the Mettur Reservoir, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami announced on 18.05.2020 itself that, water would be released from the reservoir for Kuruvai cultivation on the scheduled date of June 12 after 8 years, following the demand of Delta farmers. In addition, the Government took immediate steps to desilt the A and B canals through the Public Works Department and canals C and D through MGNREGS. Due to this the water from the reservoir reached the irrigation fields in the Cauvery Delta Districts within 15 days and the tail-end areas within 25 days from the date of opening of the reservoir on June 12.

Despite Corona lockdown being in force, as per the Hon'ble Chief Minister's order, sufficient stock of short-term quality paddy seeds was kept in Government Agriculture Extension Centres for distribution to farmers by the Agriculture Department. Steps were taken to keep the required fertilizer stocks in co-operative societies and private fertilizer shops and distributed to agriculturists through mobile fertilizer shops. Due to these measures, farmers were able to take up nursery and planting operations well in advance by utilizing the irrigation water fully.

Through System of Rice Intensification technique, direct sowing and social nursery system, nurseries are produced and given to farmers in time. Due to these advance measures, as on 03.08.2020, the Kuruvai crops have been cultivated in about 3.870 lakh acres in the Delta Districts. The current coverage is 1.067 lakh acres more than last year's 2.803 lakh acres during this period. The coverage is the record in the last 30 years of Kuruvai coverage.

To protect farmers from the possible loss in case of any natural disaster, the Government issued orders for crop insurance under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and steps are being taken to register more farmers under it. Taking into consideration the welfare of Delta farmers and to insure the Kuruvai crop which has been cultivated in additional areas, the Tamil Nadu Government has announced crop insurance in 270 Revenue Villages in Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam, Thanjavur and Tiruchi Districts, and has so far insured crops in 1.68 lakh acres. This is 1.03 lakh acres more than last year's coverage.

As the Government has taken all preliminary measures in time, production of rice is likely to be about 6.50 lakh metric tonnes in the current Kuruvai season as the Kuruvai crop has been covered in a record area of 3.870 lakh acres. ■

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates ambitious scheme to distribute 4.44 crore face masks

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami handed over face masks to five persons at the Secretariat on 27.07.2020, by way of marking the inauguration of the scheme to distribute 4.44 crore face masks to 69.09 lakh families in Town Panchayats, Municipalities and Municipal Corporations (except Greater Chennai Corporation) through fair price shops. This forms the first phase of the distribution, launched by the Department of Revenue and Disaster Management.

The Government of Tamil Nadu that functions on the lines of Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma has taken up many steps to prevent Corona Virus infection from spreading in the State. As a result of these measures, the recovery rate in Tamil Nadu is highest in the whole of India and the mortality rate, very low.

The National Guidelines of the Central Government for Corona Virus prevention management have advised people to compulsorily wear face mask at all public places, work places and while travelling to other places. As part of this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced that quality face masks for recurring use would be distributed to all family card holders in the State at no cost.

It is proposed to distribute two quality face masks to each of 6.74 crore family members, registered in the 2.08 crore family cards in the state. In the first phase, the town Panchayats, Municipalities and Municipal Corporations (barring Greater Chennai Corporation) have been taken up and 4.44 crore masks have been procured at a cost of Rs.30.07 crore for distribution to 69.09 lakh families. The distribution scheme through the fair price shops will commence on 27.07.2020.

■

More Sub Registrar office buildings opened to provide additional facilities to the public

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami, at the Secretariat on 31.07.2020, declared open Sub Registrar office buildings for Ambattur, Konnur, Sunguvarchatram, Kadayanallur, Radhapuram and Thamaraipatti, Integrated Complex of Registration Office at Tiruppur, Additional building for the I.G. of Registration head office in Chennai and Commercial Tax Office building at Palacode, all totally costing Rs.12.58 crore.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, following the path of the Hon'ble Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, has been implementing a scheme to shift Sub Registrars' Offices and Commercial Tax Offices now functioning in rented buildings to own buildings, as offices functioning in rented buildings do not have enough space to keep and maintain official documents. Moreover, these offices are frequented by the general public in large numbers. With a view to provide the public with more facilities in these Commercial Tax and Sub Registrar Offices, the Government has taken a policy decision to shift these offices from rented buildings to own buildings.

In this connection, on behalf of the Registration Department, the Sub Registrar Offices at Ambattur and Konnur in Chennai Registration District, constructed at a cost of Rs.1.91 crore; Sub Registrar's Office buildings at Sunguvarchatram in Chengalpattu Registration District, built at a cost of Rs.94.40 lakh, Sub Registrar's Office building at Kadayanallur in Tenkasi Registration District, built at a cost of Rs. 87.21 lakh; the building for Radhapuram Sub Registrar's Office in Tirunelveli Registration District built at a cost of Rs.85.18 lakh and Thamaraipatti Sub Registrar's Office building at a cost of Rs.89.94 lakh in Madurai (North) Registration District;

Integrated Complex of Registration Office in Tiruppur, built at a cost of Rs.1.82 crore and an additional building at the I.G. of Registration Head office in Chennai at a cost of Rs.3.74 crore;

On behalf of the Department Commercial Taxes, building for Palacode Commercial Tax Office in Dharmapuri District at a cost of Rs.1.54 crore.

Totally buildings for Commercial Taxes and Registration Department, built at a cost of Rs. 12.58 crore were declared open.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, as a token of handing over appointment orders for 143 Junior Assistants posts for the year 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 selected through the TNPSC, handed over orders to 5 selected candidates.

'Triumph over obstacles, serve dutifully'

Congratulatory message of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K.Palaniswami** to the winners in the UPSC Civil Services Examinations - 2019 - 05.08.2020 *(English Translation)*.

I extend my warm greetings and congratulations to Tamil Nadu candidates who have come out successful in the Civil Services Examination-2019, conducted by the Central Government's Union Public Service Commission. I am happy to know that visually challenged Selvi. Poorna Sundari, belonging to Maninagaram in Madurai District and Thiru. Balanagendran of Chennai District have come out successful in the Civil Services Examination and created records. As Saint Thiruvalluvar said, unflinching efforts pay dividends (Deivathaal Aagaathu Eninum muyarchi than Meivarutha Kooli Tharum). The determination and perseverance of Selvi. Poorna Sundari and Thiru. Balanagedran have brought them victory. On this occasion, I congratulate all candidates from Tamil Nadu who have come out successful in the Civil Services Examination and remind them that service to people is service to God. They should ensure that the welfare schemes of the Government reach the beneficiaries and work with the motive of improving the standard of living of the common people.

Both Selvi. Poorna Sundari and Thiru. Balanagendran are proof of the fact that with firm resolve one can overcome any obstacle. By winning against odds, they have set an example that, others should follow. I once again congratulate, all those who have come out successful in the Civil Services Examinations.

ePass on demand, but apply only if travel is unavoidable

Statement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami on 14.08.2020 *(English Translation)*.

Hon'ble Amma's Government is functioning with determination in protecting people from the Corona Virus, taking the necessary anti-infection steps, treating people in case of infection and providing relief to them. The lockdown is being gradually relaxed by constant monitoring of the infection's trend, people's Co-operation and the status of the virus.

To prevent the spread of the virus, ePass for inter-District travel is granted only for reasons like marriage, emergency treatment, death of close relative, going on work and returning to native place from other places. Through this, inter-District travellers are monitored and in the event of virus attack, their contacts are traced and quarantine works undertaken.

In this situation, I have ordered issue of ePass to all without any delay or obstruction for travel (between Districts) throughout Tamil Nadu for important works from 17.08.2020 on application with Aadhar/Family card details and phone/mobile numbers.

All are requested to make use of this decision, taken in the interest of the general public, responsibly, avoid unnecessary travel and apply for ePass only for unavoidable reasons, get the ePass and travel.

I affectionately request the general public to follow the Government's standing operating procedures to control the Corona Virus infection spread and extend co-operation to the Government's steps. ■

Future

I do not want to foresee the future. I am concerned with taking care of the present. God has given me no control over the moment following.

-Mahatma Gandhi

Tamilarasu

R.N.I. No. 21445/70 Regn. No. TN/CCN/642/18-20

Date of Publication : 2nd week of every month

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in the presence of Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami,** between the Industries Department, Government of Tamil Nadu and Super Auto Forge company for a Forged Steel and Aluminium parts unit at Vallam-Vadagal SIPCOT Industrial Park in Kancheepuram District, at an investment of Rs. 500 crore and with job opportunities for 800 persons, at the Secretariat on 23.07.2020.

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